Trade and Industry

Technology News

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Technology News

Helping surveyors over the measured mile

NRDC inventions

Technology News

Technology News

SRC to build world's largest infra-red telescope

Technology News

Millions to be saved

Catalysts at work: polar-vapour detector: Anglo-Soviet co-operation: silicate flotation

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Trade and Industry

6 June 1975

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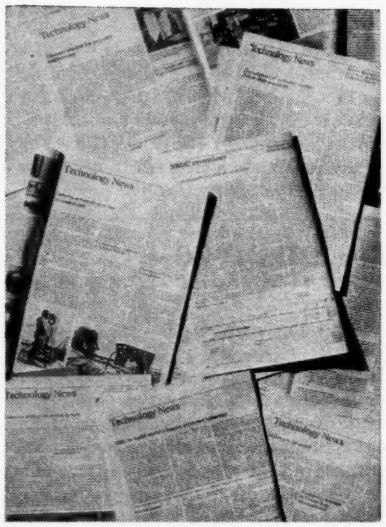

Trade and Industry's Technology News page gives up-to-date information about new techniques and innovations and covers progress in Government-funded research. It also publishes details of some of the forthcoming seminars and conferences organised for engineers, scientists and industrialists at which the latest methods will be discussed.

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Owing to an industrial dispute a certain number of items which would normally appear in this issue have been held over.

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Home News

Anglo-Nigerian trade doubles says Peter Shore

Britain's exports to Nigeria in the first four months of this year were more than double compared with the same period of 1974, and reflected the growing interest in Anglo-Nigerian trade, said Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, in a speech at the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry on 3 June.

Mr. Shore, who visited Nigeria in February, was welcoming a trade mission led by Chief Henry Fajemirokun, president of the Nigerian Association of Chambers of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Agriculture.

Mr. Shore said: 'Your own mission marks the latest of what will, I am sure, be a long succession of trade interchanges between our countries. Certainly a number of British trade missions will be going to Nigeria.

'Those British missions that have recently visited Nigeria are all exceptionally pleased with the results. I know that the London Chamber which went out last September is among these. I have no doubt, Chief Henry, that your mission to our country will prove equally worthwhile if the interest being shown in Nigeria by British businessmen is anything to go by.'

'In the first four months of this year Britain's exports to Nigeria amounted to £131 million. This compares with £59 million for the same period last year, and £222 million for last year as a whole. I sincerely hope that this marks the end of a period which has seen Britain's share of Nigeria's market fall from 45 per cent 15 years ago to the present 25 per cent.

'But of course no trading relationship can truly thrive unless it is based on mutual benefit and mutual support. In the other direction Britain's imports from Nigeria increased to £368 million last year. Products other than oil amounted for a quarter of this. We are Nigeria's biggest market for products other than oil.

'In fact in the first four months of this year the value of our imports of oil from Nigeria actually declined while our non-oil imports grew by 6 per cent – which happens to be exactly the average annual growth rate called for in Nigeria's development plan.

'As Nigeria's Third Plan gets under way, many new industries will be established. I am sure that Chief Henry will agree with me that the diversification and strengthening of Nigeria's own industry will bring about many more opportunities for collaboration between our two countries.

'The visit also affords an excellent opportunity for the Nigerian and the British private sectors to get together. Nigeria's private sector must be well satisfied that in the first two National Plans its investment target was more than met. Under the current Plan the sector is responsible for a third of all the investment envisaged. The Third Development Plan, the most ambitious ever embarked upon by Nigeria, could herald a new era of co-operation between our two countries.

'One of the points discussed during my visit to Nigeria was that we should maintain close liaison so that possible sectors for British co-operation in Nigeria's development may be quickly identified.

'We know for example that Nigeria places great emphasis on the transfer of technology. And in order to speed up development there may be occasions when the best course is to negotiate direct with consortia of firms from a particular country. The British Government is ready to initiate action where necessary to give maximum support.'

Preparing for world trade upsurge

'At a time when the volume of world trade has probably declined, Britain has maintained the volume of its exports and perhaps increased its share of world trade,' Eric Deakins, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Trade, told Hackney Rotary Club on 3 June. He continued, 'the appalling payments deficit in non-oil goods of 18 months ago has been wiped out.'

Emphasising the need to prepare now for the next upsurge in world trade, Mr. Deakins said: 'When the recovery in world trade does get under way we could well see growth in the region of 10 to 15 per cent a year. In the meantime we have to make the most of the time available to prepare ourselves for an export led recovery in 1976. This means ensuring that the resources are there, the industrial capacity is there and that there are no bottlenecks to restrict the growth of our exports. We have much to do for there are still many British products in demand all over the world for which there are long waiting lists. Furthermore, we need the fullest co-operation of all our people in bringing down the rate of inflation at least to a level comparable with that of our competitors so that our international competitiveness is not eroded.'

Mr. Deakins went on to explain the Government's expanding role in promoting exports, which would involve much closer contact with industry. 'Much of the business in the fast expanding countries of the world is in the hands of their Governments. They are pouring a lot of money into public sector development plans. Our commercial representatives overseas are often in a good position to get alongside their thinking and become involved in their plans at a very early stage.

'In many cases, those countries themselves seek our help and advice. They recognise and value the great reserves of experience and know-how in the UK. They frequently allocate business on a country-by-country basis. They don't want the problems of having to adjudicate between competing bids for individual projects.

'They see the advantage of having access to our nationalised industries, not just our private sector firms. Indeed, they sometimes want a consortium tackling a major project to consist of both elements. And they believe that Government-to-Government contacts can help to maintain the thrust behind their development plans.

'To this end, I and the Secretary of State for Trade, Peter Shore, have spent a great deal of time abroad making contacts with Ministers, officials and businessmen. In countries outside the OECD trade and politics are closely interlinked so it is often important for the British Government to maintain the political goodwill without which trading relations cannot progress.

'The recent report – *Concentration on key markets* – published by the British Export Trade Research Organisation Trust, confirmed what some of us had suspected all along. Far too many firms go into export markets in second gear. They devote far too few resources to their efforts, often letting one person shoulder the whole job. Not surprisingly the productivity of export sales staff was found to outstrip that of their domestic counterparts.

'So a change of attitude towards exporting is also needed if we are to make the most of the next upsurge in world trade. Provided we adopt the right attitude; provided we sort out our priorities; provided we start co-operating in the major task of moderating inflation; and provided we modernise and equip ourselves in time, then there is every chance that Britain will regain its share of world trade.

'Our task is made easier by the great advantages which Britain enjoys in most countries of the world. Our goods are renowned for their quality, our consultants admired for their expertise and impartiality, and our businessmen regarded highly for their integrity. There are no problems in overseas countries for British exports; our problems are here in Britain and if we can resolve them Britain could once more become the greatest trading nation in the world.'

Work begins on more Government advance factories

Five new Government advance factories for the North West, two for the North East and four in the Yorkshire and Humberside area are planned.

Knowsley, Liverpool

A contract worth over £700,000 has been placed for the construction of five advance factories for the Department of Industry on the Knowsley Industrial Estate, Liverpool, within the Merseyside Special Development Area.

Holland, Hannen and Cubitts (North West) Ltd. of Bromborough are the contractors, Architects are Richard Turley and Associates of Newcastle upon Tyne, and the quantity surveyors Turner and Townsend of Manchester.

The contract relates to the building of one 2,250 m² (25,000 sq. ft.) factory, two factories of 1,350 m² (15,000 sq. ft.), and two blocks of terrace units each totalling 1,350 m² (15,000 sq. ft.) with six units in each block.

Inquiries should be made to Mr. A. J. McLean, Department of Industry, North West Regional Office, Sunley Building, Piccadilly Plaza, Manchester M1 4BA (tel. 061-832 9111 ext. 646).

Consett and Houghton-le-Spring

Work has started on another two advance factories in the North East.

A unit of 1,350 m² (15,000 sq. ft.), designed by English Industrial Estates Corporation staff, is being built on the Leadgate Industrial Estate, Consett, Co. Durham. The contract for building this factory has been awarded to Stanley Miller Ltd. of Middlesbrough; architects for the project are Mathews Ryan and Partners of Washington, and the quantity surveyors are J. W. Summers and Partners of Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The other factory, also of 1,350 m² (15,000 sq. ft.), and designed by Estates Corporation staff, is being built on the Sedgeletch Industrial Estate, Houghton-le-Spring, Tyne and Wear. A contract for building this unit has been awarded to J. Jarvis and Sons Ltd., of Newcastle upon Tyne; architects are Fennell and Baddiley of Chester-le-Street, and the quantity surveyors are again J. W. Summers and Partners.

Both premises should be ready for occupation towards the end of this year.

Inquiries should be addressed to Regional Director, Department of Industry, Northern Regional Office, Wellbar House, Gallowgate, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 4TR (Tel Newcastle (0632) 27575).

Yorkshire/Humberside

The English Industrial Estates Corporation has announced that work is soon to begin on two contracts totalling £375,000 in respect of four Government advance factories in the Yorkshire and Humberside Intermediate Area.

A contract for the construction of a 900 m² 10,000 sq. ft.) factory and a block of four terrace unit factories totalling 900 m² (10,000 sq. ft.) on the Carlton Road Industrial Estate, Barnsley, South Yorkshire, has been awarded to Bramall and Ogden Ltd., of Mexborough. The project architects are Hawkins, Heath and Nelson, of Sunderland, and the quantity surveyors are Turner and Townsend, of Leeds.

The second of the contracts in respect of a 1,350 m² (15,000 sq. ft.) advance factory and a block of four terrace unit factories totalling 900 m² (10,000 sq. ft.), which are to be built on the Sutton Fields Industrial Estate, Kingston upon Hull, Humberside, has been awarded to Sir Lindsay Parkinson and Co. Ltd. (North East Building Division) of Leeds. The project architects are Parker and Rosner, of Kingston upon Hull, and the quantity surveyors are Turner and Townsend, of Leeds.

Work on all these factories, which were designed by the Corporation's own staff, are due to start at the beginning of June and will be available for occupation by early next year.

New industry for Pontypool

A new company, Steel Core International Ltd., has taken factory space on Torfaen Borough Council's Pontnewynydd Industrial Estate, Pontypool.

Steel Core International has been allocated two council-owned units providing an area of 3,600 sq. ft. in which to manufacture strip-wound cores in soft magnetic materials. These cores are used in transformers and chokes. There is a considerable potential market for the product in this country and overseas and it is expected that a substantial part of the company's output will be exported.

Within a short time 15 jobs should be available (11 for men) and this could eventually increase to 33 (22 men).

Chairman of Air Travel Reserve Fund Agency

Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, has appointed Sir Kenneth Selby, FCMA, FCCA, FBIM, MIQ, to be Chairman of the Air Travel Reserve Fund Agency for three years from 22 May 1975. The Air Travel Reserve Fund Agency has been set up under the Air Travel Reserve Fund Act 1975 to hold and manage the Air Travel Reserve Fund, which will give additional financial protection to many people making overseas air travel bookings.

The Agency will also make payments to customers of certain air travel organisers, including Clarksons and Horizon, who failed last year in cases where the bonding arrangements proved inadequate.

Sir Kenneth has been chairman and managing director of the Bath and Portland Group Ltd. since 1969, after having been managing director since 1960.

He is a member of the committee of the West of England branch of the Institute of Directors and a member of the regional advisory board of the British Institute of Management. He has been treasurer of Bath University since 1973 and is also a member of the Court and Council of the University. He is a member of the Board of Governors of the Bath Institute of Medical Engineering and of the council of management of the Bath Festival.

New Senior Official Receiver

Arthur Thomas Cheek, Senior Official in Bankruptcy and Companies Liquidation (High Court) will retire with effect from 10 June 1975. John Byerley Clemetson has been appointed Senior Official Receiver, Companies Liquidation and Bankruptcy and will undertake administrative duties for both the Bankruptcy and Companies High Court offices.

John Austin Sell has been appointed Principal Examiner (Companies Liquidation) with effect from 2 June 1975.

Inspectors' report on Ardmore International Film Studios

The report of inspectors appointed to investigate the affairs of Ardmore International Film Studios Ltd. was published on 29 May and is available from HMSO, price 90p net.

The inspectors, Mr. J. Corbett and Mr. R. Turnbull, were appointed on 15 June 1973 under the provisions of Section 165(b) of the Companies Act 1948.

Their report was submitted in March 1975.

One of 12 giant wire-rope slings – believed to be the largest ever produced – fabricated by British Ropes Ltd., Doncaster, for lifting deck sections and modules on to oil production platforms in the BP Forties Field in the North Sea. The slings, which have a cable diameter of 7 in., have hand-spliced loops at both ends. They have a calculated breaking load of 1,360 tonnes. The lower picture depicts a stage in the splicing, showing the strength and skill required to open up the cable laid rope and tuck-in the ends of the component ropes.

Special category Certificate of Airworthiness for Concorde

The Secretary General of the French Civil Aviation Authority has awarded a special category Certificate of Airworthiness for the French-based third production Concorde. It was delivered to Aerospatiale, co-producers of Concorde with British Aircraft Corporation, yesterday, 22 May. A similar certificate is expected to be awarded to the British-based fourth production Concorde in June.

These special certificates will allow Aerospatiale to begin its endurance flying programme in conjunction with Air France in the third production aircraft at the end of May, and British Aircraft Corporation to begin its endurance flying with the fourth production Concorde in conjunction with British Airways in July.

The award of a special category Certificate of Airworthiness in France was an important step in Concorde's development programme, the objective being a full Certificate of Airworthiness later this year.

CAA licences ABC flights to Ghana

Robin Goodison, Deputy Chairman of the Civil Aviation Authority, has announced that the authority has licensed Dan Air and British Caledonian Airways to operate the first Advance Booking Charter flights to Ghana.

The Authority has licensed Dan Air to operate a maximum of 12 return flights and British Caledonian Airways to operate eight return flights.

The licensing of these two airlines to operate ABCs opens up another area to the successful Advance Booking system, first introduced between the UK and Canada, the USA and the Caribbean in 1973.

Both airlines applied to operate ABCs also to Nigeria and the Authority, in its decision, says that it thought it best not to licence these at present, pending discussions between the two Governments.

Lord Beswick signs European Space Agency Convention in Paris

Lord Beswick, Minister of State, Department of Industry, signed the European Space Agency Convention on behalf of the British Government at a Conference of Plenipotentiaries held in Paris on 30 May.

The Convention, which was approved at a Ministerial Conference in Brussels in April, will formally set up the European Space Agency.

Lord Beswick, who has special responsibility for aerospace in the Department of Industry, also visited the Paris Air Show on the same day. He attended the opening ceremony of the show and visited the Department of Industry stand and other British exhibitor's stands.

The Department of Industry stand, shared with the Defence Sales Organisation of the Ministry of Defence, illustrated the Government's confidence in the Concorde project and highlighted the British civil aircraft industry's export achievements over the last 10 years. The stand had facilities for receiving foreign guests, and officials involved in civil aircraft export promotion were on hand throughout the show to provide information on the Department of Industry's aerospace activities. These include participation in the development of new civil aircraft and engine projects and support for research and demonstrator programmes. The DoI also finances jointly with UK industry programmes of research and development in space technology and provides the British contribution to European space application programmes.

Joint UK/US statement on airline commission rates

The following statement was issued in Washington by the British Embassy and US State Department on 22 May.

'Representatives of the US and British Government met in Washington on 21-22 May 1975, to discuss the problems which had arisen over the system of commission rates paid by airlines to travel agents and other intermediaries for international travel, and over the enforcement of the system.

'They were convinced that widespread abuses had created an unsatisfactory situation. They agreed that it was in the interests of the airline industry, travel agents, and the public, that a stable system of commission rate be adopted, uniformly implemented and fully fully enforced as soon as possible.

'To this end, the two Governments undertook to bring their concern to the attention of IATA and to urge that it adopt, subject to Government approvals, a commission rate system which would provide for stability and for enforcement of any agreed-upon rates. The two Governments stressed the particular importance they attached to the uniform implementation and effective enforcement of any such system.

'The representatives of the two Governments also considered what actions the Governments themselves could take. The US representative stated that they would press for early action on a proposal currently pending before the Civil Aeronautics Board for the filing of commission rate schedules and for effective penalties for failure to observe the rates as filed. The British representatives stated that they would review the powers of the British Government to ensure that they were adequate to deal with the enforcement question.

'Both Governments were conscious of the danger that an unrestrained commission war would further undermine airline finances at a time when airlines were already in difficulties, and could create pressures for higher fares. They therefore agreed to urge their airlines to press for the simultaneous adoption, at the earliest possible moment, of IATA resolutions providing for the establishment of:

1 An effective enforcement system.
2 An interim agreement on commission rates pending the results of the investigations into agents' costs that the IATA has already set in train.

'The two Governments expect all airlines to enter into these negotiations in good faith and to be prepared to reach a reasonable accommodation of their differing points of view.

'The two Governments also agreed to bring their concern over this matter to the attention of other governments, to inform them of the actions they were taking and to invite them to take comparable action.

'In the light of their understanding that Pan American would use their best efforts to achieve as soon as possible the adoption of the IATA resolutions referred to in the fifth paragraph above, the British Government stated that they did not intend to take any precipitate action in regard to Pan American's operating permits.'

Have you a good export picture?

Each week *Trade and Industry* publishes pictures illustrating Britain's export business. Companies with export successes are invited to send in the story with a photograph showing the goods in manufacture, ready for despatch, or, preferably, on arrival overseas. The story must, of course, reach us while it is still news.

Send your export photographs to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 439, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

More effective compensation for oil pollution damage round coasts

Local authorities and other claimants who have to meet the cost of clearing up oil that has come ashore from tankers will in future be able to claim more effectively for compensation.

Four statutory instruments published on 29 May by the Department of Trade will enable Britain to implement the International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage, as from 19 June.

The four statutory instruments which are required under the legislation enabling the UK to ratify the Convention – the Merchant Shipping (Oil Pollution) Act 1971, as amended by Section 9 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1974 – are:

i the Merchant Shipping (Oil Pollution) Act 1971 (Commencement No. 2) Order 1975; SI No. 867 (C26) price 6p net,

ii the Merchant Shipping Act 1974 (Commencement No. 2) Order 1975; SI No. 866 (C25) price 4p net,

iii the Oil Pollution (Compulsory Insurance) Regulations, 1975; SI No. 869 price 11p net, and

iv the Merchant Shipping (Limitation of Liability for Oil Pollution) (Sterling Equivalents) Order, 1975; SI No. 868, price 6p net.

All are available from HMSO.

Provided they can identify the tanker responsible for the spillage, local authorities will be better placed to claim compensation because under this Convention:

i the tankers owner's liability is strict and it is not necessary to prove he was at fault in allowing the spillage,

ii the limits of the owner's liability are increased – to an effective maximum, depending on size of ship, of over £7 million,

iii tankers carrying as cargo more than 2,000 tons of oil have to be insured, or otherwise financially covered, and carry an official certificate to that effect.

Stanley Clinton Davis, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Companies, Aviation and Shipping, said in reply to a Parliamentary Question on 28 April that the International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage 1969, to which the UK was a party, would enter into force on 19 June 1975.

Mini Tunnels International Ltd., Old Woking, Surrey, has secured a double honour for its 39in. to 51in. diameter Mini Tunnel – the Queen's Award to Industry for technological innovation and a Design Council award for engineering products. The system does away with trench excavation in providing underground sewer and utility services. It has an electric loco for materials transportation and a laser to keep it on course. The picture above shows work on a contract in France in the town of Orange where the tunnel drive was complicated by a Roman wall. The Mini Tunnel has already produced £750,000 of export orders. The photograph, taken during construction, shows the battery operated loco pushing a demountable skip for removing the excavated material. The wheeled bogey doubles up to take three unreinforced conrete lining segments which mount on a special carrier frame fitted with nylon rollers to speed erection and reduce manual effort. The diagram shows how the system operates.

Leaflet describes protection for the air traveller

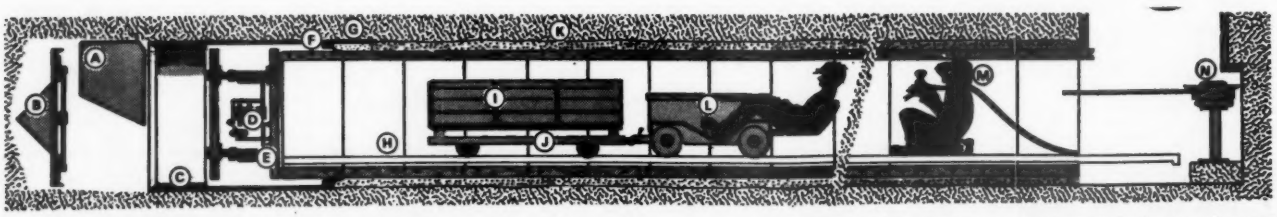
The Civil Aviation Authority has published a new leaflet describing the protection given to holidaymakers travelling by air who make their arrangements through a licensed Air Travel Organiser. The Government's Air Travel Reserve Fund, about to be set up, applies only to air travel organisers licensed by the Civil Aviation Authority.

The leaflet, 'What is an ATOL? – how it protects the air traveller', explains how important it is for air travellers to deal with a holder of an Air Travel Organiser's licence, what the different types of licence are, and the protection provided by the system – the bonding arrangements and the new air travel reserve fund. Copies can also be obtained free of charge from the Civil Aviation Authority, PO Box 41, Cheltenham, Glos.

New fire safety rules for tankers and combination carriers

New rules dealing with the structural fire protection of tankers and combination carriers over 500 gross tons come into force on 1 July 1975.

These rules introduce fire protection safety provisions in the construction of accommodation spaces, service spaces, control stations and machinery spaces and provide for the separation of certain spaces in the ship and the use of firm insulation and non-combustible materials.



A A detachable front hood to hold weak ground
B Add-on face diaphragm for difficult extrudable ground
C Lightweight steel shield with strengthened cutting edge
D Aero-hydraulic power pack with triple pump unit for reliability
E Floating hydraulic thrust rig with differential ram pressure capability
F High velocity gravel injection line for continual filling of annular overcut
G Tail hood to 'hold' annular overcut through gravel injection operation
H Steel rail track incorporating air and gravel lines hauled along during shield jacking operation
I Erector frame carries concrete segments to form 800mm(2 ft.)of tunnel
J Segment carrier bogie doubles for muck skip transport
K Gravel overcut surround gives even ground support to liner
L Self-contained electric Mini-Mule transports material and segments
M Pressure injection of cement grout into overcut gravel surround gives final seal to tunnel liner
N Rear Datum Laser gives line and grade

Patent Office report shows trend towards pollution prevention and vehicle safety

The 1974 Report of the Comptroller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks, published on 29 May shows a continuing trend towards solving problems in the fields of environmental pollution and vehicle safety. Patent specifications published in 1974 showed developments in incinerators for toxic waste fluids and the treatment of waste gases from industrial processes by both chemical and physical means. Modifications to the internal combustion engine laid stress on reducing noxious exhaust products.

Among vehicle safety devices a new apparatus for preventing the accidental locking of steering column locks was developed. There was also an increase in the use of digital control in anti-skid braking systems, and the development of automatic systems for warning of brake-failure.

Valuable advances in the electrical field included the development of small solid-state cells for implantation as a component for cardiac pacemakers.

The Report shows a 6½ per cent drop in the number of applications and complete specifications filed, reflecting the general economic stringency in industry both in this country and abroad. The number of patents sealed fell by 11 per cent.

Although this decline was widespread there were some exceptions. The Japanese for example increased their filings by 2.6 per cent, and now represent 9.5 per cent of all complete specifications filed. Residents of the United States and EEC countries other than the UK each filed 26 per cent of complete specifications.

While applications for design registration also decreased by about 8 per cent this was a smaller reduction than 1973 when they fell by 22 per cent. The figures show that design registration is now little used for textiles. There was also a 6 per cent reduction in applications for registration of Trade Marks.

The Report explains the fee increases which came into effect on 24 May. It says that the cost of providing necessary services exceeded the level of receipts from fees by nearly 40 per cent.

Despite the shortfall in recruiting there has been only a small rise in the number of unexamined complete patent specifications. There has also been an expansion in training, particularly in languages and the Office has been able to fulfil all its commitments to the working parties carrying out the preparatory work for the projected European Patent Office. The Report endorses the target of a European Patent Convention entering into force by early 1977, with the European Patent Office open for the receipt of European patent applications by 1978. Apart from this, international work has continued to strengthen and extend industrial property protection throughout the world.

Copies of the report are available from HMSO price 65p.

Patents endorsed 'Licences of Right'

Under Section 35 of the Patents Act 1949 the following patents were endorsed 'Licences of Right' on the date specified.

Number	Grantee	Subject-matter
2 May 1975		
1,165,554	Engineering and Chemical Supplies and Services Ltd. (formerly known as Marela Ltd.)	Method and apparatus for removing the skin of fruit or vegetables
1,175,088	Engineering and Chemical Supplies and Services Ltd. (formerly known as Marela Ltd.)	Method of and apparatus for orienting objects
1,180,757	Engineering and Chemical Supplies and Services Ltd. (formerly known as Marela Ltd.)	Method and apparatus for peeling onions or like vegetables
1,104,935	Standard Telephones and Cables Limited	Improvements in or relating to a method of forming a layer of an inorganic compound
1,290,886	Standard Telephones and Cables Limited	Cables
1,047,162	Louis Mazrie Gabriel France Dumont	Improvements in feed control systems
1,128,243	Rolinx Limited and Richard Hodson Bebb	Improvements in or relating to bottle crates
1,265,225	Ben Brandl	Method and apparatus for removing defects from sheet metal
1,319,582	Thomas George Harrison Smith	Fixing device (wall-plug type)
1,327,293	Werner Schon	Scissors
1,345,229	Gyogyszerkutato Intezet	Benzyloxyamines
7 May 1975		
1,303,502	Initial Plastics Limited	Improvements in coverings of plastics material
13 May 1975		
1,045,482	Jacob Lionell Davies	Improvements in or relating to back boilers for domestic fireplaces or stoves
1,107,412	Jacob Lionell Davies	Improvements in or relating to back boilers for domestic fireplaces or stoves
953,204	Rohm and Haas Company	Copolymerisation of ethylene with alkyl acrylates or methacrylates
1,228,295	United States Atomic Energy Commission	Photochromic radiation dosimeter
1,277,892	Jack Francis Vaughen	Load bearing air cushion apparatus
1,278,217	Etablissement Aesup	Improvements in or relating to a push-button switch
1,313,122	Electrostatic Printing Corporation of America	Electrostatic printing apparatus
1,351,947	Roderich Wilhelm Graeff	Improvements in or relating to the adsorption of water vapour from gases
1,371,437	Paul Louis Wattelez	Padding material for machine tools or other applications
14 May 1975		
1,380,642	Commissariat A L'Energie Atomique	A device for producing a large DC potential from an AC source

Any person who claims that the patentee at the time of endorsement of any of the above patents was precluded by a contract in which claimant is interested from granting licences under the patents may apply for cancellation of the endorsement on Patents Form No. 45 within two months after the date of endorsement.

E. Armitage
Comptroller

Have you a good industrial news picture?

Pictures are published in *Trade and Industry* each week showing developments in British industry. If your company has introduced an interesting new product, if you have received an award, if you have developed a novel manufacturing process, if you have produced the biggest or smallest or heaviest or (you feel) the best designed product, you are welcome to send us a photograph with a short news story. Contributions should be sent promptly – while the subject is still newsworthy – to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 439, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

South Eastern Gas Consumers' Council appointment

Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, has appointed Mr. W. A. Rowlatt of Hove as a member of the South Eastern Gas Consumers' Council until 30 June 1977.

Mr. Rowlatt is a district organiser of the Transport and General Workers' Union. He serves on the Agricultural Wages and Training Committees of the union as well as various divisional education committee governing bodies.

London Electricity Consultative Council appointment

Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, has appointed Mr. Charles Boxer, LL.B. and Mr. M. O'Gara of SW London as members of the London Electricity Consultative Council until 28 February 1978.

Appointment of new Transport User's Consultative Committee for Wales

Fourteen members have been appointed to the Transport User's Consultative Committee for Wales by Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection. The members appointed are:

Mr. M. Davey*
Mrs. G. Evans
Mr. M. E. Evans
Mr. M. R. Griffiths, JP
Mr. R. Griffiths*
Mr. G. Harrington, JP
Mr. C. A. Hogg*
Mr. L. Howell, OBE, FCIS
Mr. A. Hughes, ACIS
Mr. E. R. Jones, FCIT*
Mr. G. Owen*
Mrs. M. E. Richards, SRN, SCM
Mr. N. R. Thomas*
Mr. H. Williams*

Mr. C. L. Ricketts will continue as chairman. The Secretary is Mr. E. G. Gomm, MBE, and the Committee Office is at St. Davids House, East Wing, Wood Street, Cardiff CF1 1ES.

* New members

John Methven reviews OFT's first 14 months

The first annual report of the Director General of Fair Trading was published on 28 May. In it John Methven, Director General of Fair Trading, reveals that the first attempt to analyse consumers' complaints on a nationwide basis showed that over 142,000 complaints had been made in a period of nine months to local agencies.

The Office of Fair Trading last year asked the local agencies to co-operate in the development of a scheme to analyse consumer complaints on a national basis. In many areas, the scheme did not become fully operational until early this year, but nine months of collecting partial statistics gave a total of 142,348 consumer complaints. Some of the more significant figures are:

	Complaints
Household appliances	21,580
Food and drink	18,201
Motor vehicles and accessories	14,671
Furniture and floor coverings	10,934
Footwear	8,138

Analysis of the 142,348 complaints showed that 11,587 appeared to be covered by the Trade Descriptions Act 1968, 3,669 fell under the Weights and Measures Act 1963 and 2,991 under the Food and Drugs Act 1955 (and 1956 for Scotland).

In his first report* to Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, covering the period 1 November 1973 to 31 December 1974, John Methven stressed that it was never contemplated that his Office should investigate individual consumer complaints but to enable it to look after the economic interests of consumers effectively, it must receive a continuous flow of information from all over the UK on matters causing concern to consumers generally.

The 78-page report is divided into five parts. In parts one and two John Methven outlines his approach to the duties and responsibilities of his Office and highlights events of significance that have taken place during the period of the report. Part three deals with the work of the Divisions of the OFT in detail; part four reports on the activities of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission and part five on the activities of the Consumer Protection Advisory Committee.

'The powers and functions of the OFT – covering monopolies, mergers, restrictive trade practices, consumer affairs and consumer credit – are fitting together well' says John Methven. 'Our main aim is to encourage competition which is fair towards the consumer by ensuring that trading standards are improved wherever possible and that unfair trading practices are stopped or changed'.

Commenting on the way the OFT has carried out its functions, the Director General writes: 'I thought it important from the start that my Office and I should operate as far as reasonably possible in the public eye. Unless trade, industry and consumer knew of my existence, the powers which I had been given, and the scope for changes and improvements which I could bring about, the Office would only be partially effective'. To further this aim he has attended meetings of trade associations and consumer groups, has visited consumer advice centres and given many interviews to journalists and national and local radio and television.

The report emphasises the Director General's intention to establish long term policies for the fields of work covered by the Office because many of their tasks affect the future industrial and commercial structure of the UK. In the formulation of these policies the Office has drawn on the experience of other countries. Representatives of the anti-trust and consumer protection agencies of a number of countries have visited the Office and the Director General has himself visited the USA, Canada and Sweden.

Dealing with the powers granted to his Office by the Fair Trading Act John Methven says, 'I was concerned to show, in the first year of the Office, how I intended to exercise across a broad front the powers given to me. In particular the powers have been used to make monopoly references, to put proposals to the Consumer Protection Advisory Committee, to promote voluntary codes and to obtain undertakings from individual traders. Much of my time and attention over the past year has been given to the consumer affairs side of my Office since this was entirely new. I attach great importance to the use of powers of persuasion as well as to the statutory powers.

The report draws attention to some of the more important events in the period of review – particularly those which are significant in the development of the general policies of the Office or as pointers to the way in which business is likely to be conducted in the future.

* Annual report of the Director General of Fair Trading for the period, November 1973 to December 1974. HMSO, price £1.00.

Undertakings to Director General of Fair Trading

The Director General of Fair Trading announced on 27 May that he has been given written undertakings under Part III of the Fair Trading Act 1973 by London Eating Houses Group Ltd., of 122 Baker Street, London W1, and by its director, Mr. Ali Salih.

In this case, the assurances are based on breaches of the Food Hygiene Regulations. London Eating Houses Group Ltd. – which operates 74 restaurants under various trading names including Aberdeen Steak Houses, Texas Pancake Houses, American Hamburger and Pizza Pizza – has been convicted of offences under these Regulations on ten

occasions between April 1968 and December 1974. The convictions related to ten of the group's restaurants.

The company has informed the Office of Fair Trading that it has appointed a senior executive and a hygiene officer with special responsibilities to ensure strict compliance with the Regulations, and that it has initiated a scheme of hygiene courses for its staff. The company has also stated that it has spent more than £15,000 since December on improvements to its premises generally.

Clearance of merger proposals

Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection has decided, on the information at present before her, not to refer the proposed mergers between Knowsley and Co. Ltd. and the London based activities of Northern Commercial Trust Ltd.; and between Algemene Nederland Bank NV and Northern Commercial Trust Ltd. to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission under the provisions of the Fair Trading Act 1973.

Local prices monitored in Southend

The second in a series of price checks on local shopping areas in cities throughout Great Britain, undertaken by the National Federation of Consumer Groups at the request of Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, was carried out in Southend on 28 May. The surveys are part of the Government's policy to improve the information available to shoppers, to show that savings can be made through careful buying and to encourage price competition among traders.

The Southend survey, the first to be undertaken in England, was undertaken by the Southend and District Consumer Group whose members collected and analysed the results under the supervision of the Group's Joint Secretary, Mrs. Marion Taylor.

Detailed results of the Southend survey are available from Mrs. Taylor, Joint Secretary of the Southend and District Consumer Group, at 501 Sutton Road, Southend (tel. Southend (0702) 64511).

Bankruptcy records for England and Wales

Details of bankruptcies in England and Wales are maintained in a public search room at Room 901. Thomas More Building, Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2JY.

Searches can be made personally or by an agent and a fee of 25p in respect of each bankruptcy inquiry is payable at the time.

First code of practice from motor trade

The first code of practice to arise out of discussions between the motor trade and the Office of Fair Trading was announced on 27 May when the Scottish Motor Trade Association (SMTA) launched a Used Car Consumer Plan, drawn up in consultation with the OFT.

John Methven, Director General of Fair Trading, commented: 'It is no secret that cars and their servicing have been something of a consumers' nightmare – over 18,500 complaints about the motor trade being recorded by my Office in just six months. But, thank goodness, the trade has realised that this cannot continue, and today we are seeing the first fruits of more enlightened thinking on trader-customer relations. Scotland has taken the lead with a very good scheme which I can thoroughly recommend.'

The SMTA's plan will ensure that used cars offered under it have been prepared and tested to a set standard, and will provide consumers with adequate means of redress in the case of a dispute. From 27 May SMTA members are agreeing voluntarily that, whenever they offer a used car for sale under the plan, five major points will be observed:

1 They will carry out a standard schedule of preparation on every vehicle offered for sale under the plan. This schedule includes carrying out a major service, and inspection for excessive oil leaks, rust, a road test and thorough cleaning.
2 A warranty will be supplied with every vehicle in a form prescribed by the Association.
3 Traders will state, to the best of their knowledge, whether the mileage recorded on a used car's mileometer is correct or incorrect.
4 If a dispute between a customer and an SMTA member arises over a used car sold under the plan and cannot be resolved, the customer will be told that he can submit his complaint to the Association's new Customer Complaint Service. Without charge, the Service will investigate and recommend a settlement. If this attempt at conciliation fails, either customer or trader can seek an independent judgement from a member of the Institute of Arbitrators.
5 Traders wil make themselves liable to disciplinary action for persistent breaches of the plan's requirements.

Onshore petroleum exploration licences granted

Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Energy, has granted three licences authorising the exploration for petroleum (ie oil and gas) to the British Gas Corporation and BP Petroleum Development Ltd., under the provisions of the Petroleum (Production) Act, 1934 and related regulations.

The licences cover an area of 1,033 sq. km. in Dorset and Hampshire.

They authorise the searching for oil and gas by prospecting and geological survey, including drilling to a depth of not more than 350 m. to obtain geological information.

The licences do not confer the right to drill for or to produce oil or gas. Licensees must obtain the permission of land owners and occupiers before entering on to any land. They are also required to consult local authorities before carrying out any seismic survey or drilling operation and to obtain any planning permission which may be required.

The licences are valid in the first instance for a period of three years and may be renewed annually at the discretion of the Secretary of State for up to a further three years.

Seminar on sea pipelines for gas

The Government of Italy has extended an invitation to member countries of the Economic Commission for Europe to take part in a Seminar on problems relating to sea pipelines for the transport of gas. This Seminar will be held at Florence from 5-9 April 1976 under the auspices of the Committee on Gas of the Economic Commission for Europe.

Papers may be submitted under the following main headings:

a Economics and general problems of sea-gas pipeline systems
b Design of sea-gas pipelines systems and related problems
c Technology of sea-gas pipeline laying
d Operation and maintenance of sea-gas pipelines.

Registration forms for authors must be completed by 25 June, texts of papers are required by 15 September and registration forms for participants by 17 November.

Details (including copies of registration forms) may be obtained from Gas Division, Department of Energy, Thames House North, Millbank, London, SW1 4QJ. (tel. 01-211 6354).

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor should be addressed to the Editor, *Trade ond Industry*, Room 437, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, and *not* to HMSO.

'MISER' joins fight to save energy in industry

The Energy Technology Support Unit (ETSU) of the Department of Energy has taken the initiative in setting up a standing workshop on the problems of studying energy flows in industry in the United Kingdom.

It will provide a forum where technical experts from various bodies can discuss the principles of energy analysis as they relate to energy flows in the industrial system, and enable them to share the experience gained in studying diverse parts of the system.

The project – Methodology of Industrial System Energy Requirements – will be known as MISER.

The National Economic Development Office (NEDO) report on Energy Conservation in the United Kingdom, published last December, pointed out that conservation in industry (which uses over 40 per cent of the total primary energy in the UK) could be separated into housekeeping measures involving relatively small capital expenditure and longer-term technological improvements likely in general to yield significant reductions in energy consumption.

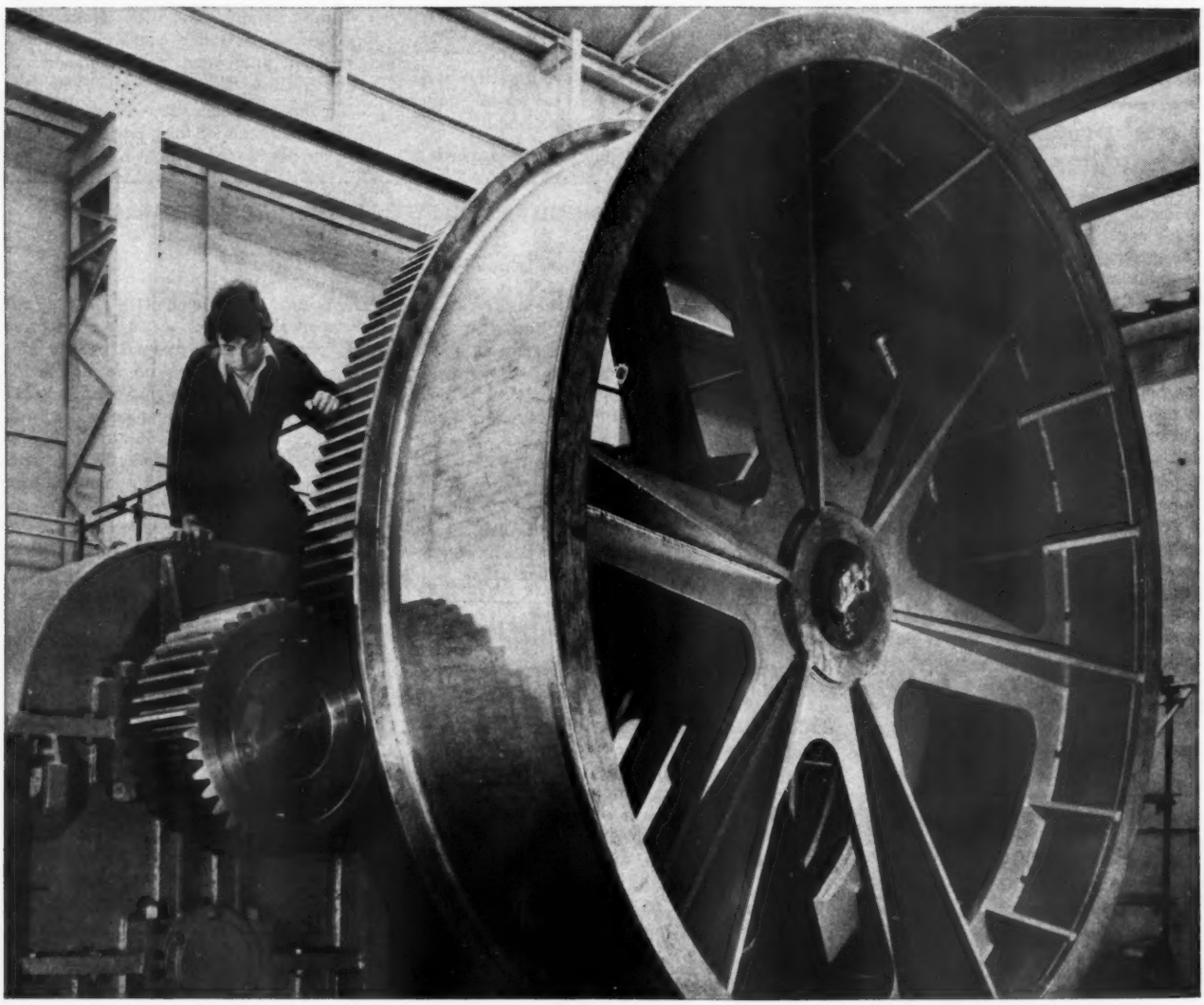
The report called for a detailed energy analysis of different sectors of industry to determine the full potential for energy saving and to aid the forecasting of national energy requirements for the future.

Various studies of this kind are to be carried out by Cambridge University, the Open University and the University of Strathclyde as well as the Department of Energy using ETSU as its agency. The Department of Industry may also become involved, and several industrial organisations are assisting the ETSU studies. All these organisations have technical representatives on MISER.

One stumbling block to introducing the long-term conservation measures advocated by NEDO is the lack of useful data. One of the first tasks of MISER will be to co-ordinate the techniques used for obtaining and analysing the relevant data. This will enable the workshop to:

- avoid energy accounting pitfalls which, by common consent, should be avoided when formulating energy requirements for producing industrial goods
- provide data on different industries in a form which enables comparisons to be made
- assess the effects of, and needs for, new technology
- aggregate the information obtained.

The chairman of MISER is Professor Fred Roberts and the secretary Dr. Peter Harris, both of ETSU, which is located in building 10.28 at the Harwell laboratory of the UK Atomic Energy Authority.



One of two winch-type transmission sets supplied to Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd., by David Brown Gear Industries Ltd., Huddersfield. Standard Telephones and Cables is responsible for cable machinery on the two most advanced Post Office cable ships, designed for the maintenance and repair of the 24,000 kilometres of British off-shore submarine telephone cable. The David Brown units on each vessel will individually transmit 200 hp from separate electric motor inputs of 960 rev./min., through a primary unit to a four-speed helical gear set, which then drives the final pinion and 3 metre diameter girth gear which locks on to the cable winch drum. The four-speed arrangement will provide for variable cable tensioning up to 30 tonnes, with a cable speed rate of from 1.11 to 14.8 km./hour. Of 3,556 tonnes gross, the sister ships are under construction in the Dundee shipyard of Robb Caledon.

Publications

Supplement to the Official Journal of the European Communities: Annual alphabetical and methodological index 1973. (311 pages. Available to subscribers to the *Official Journal*. HMSO. £21.00 per annum.) This volume forms an index to the *Official Journal of the European Communities* for 1973 (Volume 16), covering both the 'L' (Legislation) series and the 'C' (Information and Notices) series. The alphabetical section (on white pages) is a detailed subject index, in one sequence, to all items published in the *Official Journal* whether 'L' series or 'C' series. The index refers to the appropriate issue and page number of the *Official Journal*, and indicates the category of each item, eg Regulation, Written Question to the European Parliament, Case of the Court of Justice. The methodological section (on yellow pages) is a cumulation of the monthly *Methodological Tables* already published as Supplements to the *Official Journal*. The contents of the 'L' series and the 'C' series are divided into categories (Regulations, Written Questions, etc.) and items are listed numerically, or chronologically if they are unnumbered. The volume is useful in particular because it contains the first detailed subject index to the *Official Journal* since it began publication in English in 1973. It has, however, inevitably taken some time to produce; and for legislation published since 1973 the Department of Industry Library Services have prepared for the Statutory Publications Office a monthly Subject List and Table of Effects which lists legislation (except short-term agricultural instruments) under 41 broad subject headings, and shows how earlier legislation has been affected by later legislation. This is *Secondary legislation of the European Communities: Subject list and table of effects* and it is available from HMSO at 50p per monthly issue (annual subscription including postage, £6.66); a cumulative volume for 1974 will appear shortly at a separate price.

Economic Trends: a monthly publication of the Government Statistical Service. Central Statistical Office. HMSO. Annual subscription for 12 copies plus an annual supplement, £16.64, postage £1.69 extra. Single copies £1.15, postage £0.13 extra.

Economic Trends for March 1975, number 257, is the first of the 'new style' issues. It is the result of much research into the real needs of users and the intention is to render the presentation in a much more usable form. The publication now contains more data, more derived series, more information about current developments and has a new type-face, re-designed data tabulation, and a new index. There is one system of numbering throughout the work and the regular tables and charts are located in the first half so that the page numbers for particular series will not change from issue to issue. In the near future the structure of the monthly numbers will divide into three distinct sections. The first, 'Latest Developments', is a kind of 'stop press' section containing summaries of press releases issued during the month, current economic events and an updated table of monthly indicators. It is important to note that the figures published in this section may differ, because of updating and adjusting processes, from other figures on the same topic which have gone to press earlier. The second and main part is a greatly expanded set of key economic indicators arranged in tabular form on left hand pages and charted on facing right hand pages. Colour has been introduced where it is felt that it will aid interpretation – for example by creating a background grid on those charts drawn to a logarithmic scale. As before, series are seasonally adjusted where this is possible, and index numbers in some charts have been assigned a common base date for convenience of comparison. Finally, there will be a new regular section on reference cycles. It is introduced with an article in the March issue and will appear, in future issues, after the main tables and charts. This is the first time that any official work on reference cycles has been published in the UK. The articles, which have moved to the second half of the publication, are in no way relegated in importance. Balance of payments and national accounts will continue to appear quarterly and there will be the usual range of special features on new series, together with information about innovations in analysis and methodology. Also worth noting is the addition of notes and summaries about relevant articles appearing in other government publications and news of developments in economic statistics. The final important innovation is the annual publication of a supplement to *Economic Trends* containing very long runs of the main economic series. This supplement will replace the former *New Contributions to Economic Statistics*.

Les Conditions d'Installation d'Entreprises Industrielles dans les Etats Africains et Malgache Associes: Republique Togolaise. Commission of the European Communities: Directorate-General for Co-operation and Development. (86 pages. Available from the Commission of the European Communities, Directorate-General for Co-operation and Development (VIII/B/1), rue de la Loi, 200, 1040 Brussels. 2nd ed., 1974. Free.)

In 1972 the EEC Commission, working in close collaboration with the Governments of the States associated with the Community, published a series of booklets on the setting up and subsequent running of industrial firms in the Associated States. This work on the Republic of Togo is volume eight in the series and the information contained in this second edition dates from mid-1974 and reflects the situation at that time. It should be noted that all of the studies are written in the official language of the country concerned. The information has been compiled for all those interested in the industrialisation of the Association States in general or one state in particular. Three main chapters form the core of the work: general background and industrial policy; regulations; and, finally, the availability and costs of installation and production. A great deal of data, not easily available elsewhere, is presented in tabular form and the publication has the added merit of presenting up to date material for an area where it is difficult to obtain statistics. This information was compiled by *SEDES – Societe d'etudes pour le Development Economique et Social*, Paris. The other countries which make up the series are; Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Dahomey, Gabon, Ivory Coast, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritius, Mauritania, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Somalia, Upper Volta, and Zaire.

Manufacturing Industries (British Industry Today). Central Office of Information Reference Pamphlet 126. (31 pages. HMSO. 1975. £0.42. ISBN 0 11 800758 7.)

In its introduction this pamphlet briefly summarises the structure, output and productivity of the manufacturing sector as a whole. The importance of this area of industry is shown by the fact that the output of the manufacturing sector accounts for just over 30 per cent of the UK's gross national product and that manufactured or semi-manufactured products make up over 80 per cent of Britain's visible exports. The pamphlet then describes each of the major industrial groups, ranging from metal manufacture, engineering, and vehicles to chemicals, textiles, food, bricks, paper and a variety of others. For both groups and the individual industries figures are given for employment, production and exports. A short reading list concludes the publication.

Europe and its Environment: programme for a better quality of life. Office for Official Publications of the European Communities. (24 pages. Available from HMSO. 1975. £0.22. ISBN 0 11 945595.)

This brief outline of the EEC's current and proposed policies on environmental matters is designed to give an extensive look at the subject rather than analyse in detail the complex European machinery for combating pollution. The European environment forms the introduction and this is followed by a short summary of member states' policies. A European plan of action, adopted in July 1973, forms the next section. The pamphlet then enumerates the more particular problems associated with environmental pollution; clean air, uncontaminated water, the oceanic pollution complex of problems, waste disposal, and, finally, the conserving of natural resources. The concluding section examines the work environment – safety, hours, industrial relations etc., – and welcomes the growing awareness of the importance of this topic in the context of the quality of life.

Britain

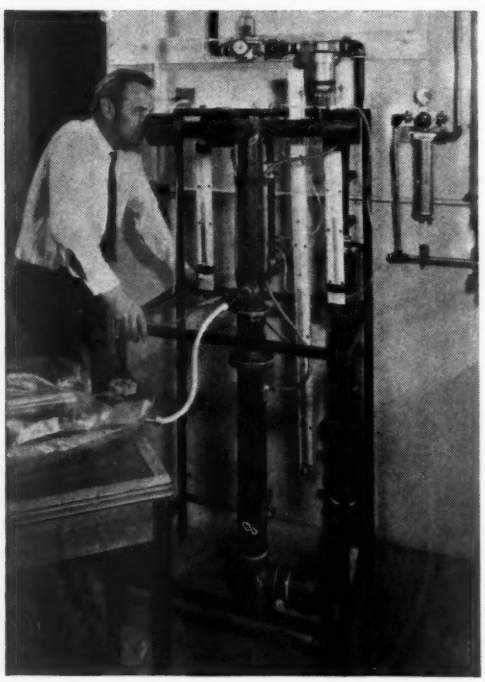
Catalysts at work

by Jennifer Clarke

'Odour Abatement' may not sound like a serious problem. To some, the meticulous phrase might suggest over-fastidious preoccupations. Yet when it comes to smell, it is difficult for the scientist to talk in detached terms. A smell used to be something it was polite not to notice. Given a vocabulary still couched in genteel embarrassment, there is no impartial way of referring to our olfactory sensations. The best we can do is to call it an odour. Terminology aside, living next to a glue factory we might agree that it ought to be abated.

But the fact remains that the problems are real ones. Local residents are protected by the 1936 Public Health Act, which prohibits the creation of a nuisance in the form of a terrible smell. The effectiveness of this can be judged by the fact that already this year, at least seven plants in the animal by-products recycling industry have been closed down. At present, this is not balanced by the sort of technology which would enable firms to get rid of odours economically. In industrial terms, this means difficulty and expense in the production of food, drugs, cosmetics, polishes, glues, animal feed additives and all recycling activities which involve making use of waste products and cutting down on our imports.

That is why much of the work of the catalysis section at Warren Spring Laboratory, under Dr. R. L. Moss, is at present devoted to finding out whether catalysts can be used to provide an efficient and economic method of destroying odours, by oxidizing them to harmless odour-free products such as carbon dioxide and water.



Two-stage dynamic dilution apparatus in use at Warren Spring Laboratory. The air to be tested is contained in the plastic bag.

A catalyst speeds up these chemical reactions and lowers the operating temperatures required and hence the fuel costs involved. Catalytic oxidation is only one of several possible methods of removing smells and other groups at Warren Spring Laboratory are investigating the use of thermal afterburners, liquid scrubbers etc. in order to devise the best answer in each particular case.

Part of the problem is the extremely low concentration at which odour-producing chemical compound can cause a nuisance, for example, people can smell some substances when only 0.001 parts per million are present. This is the threshold for butyric acid, which smells like rancid butter. For trimethylamine, with a fishy smell the figure is 0.0002 parts per million. With threshold figures at this level it is clearly necessary to eliminate entirely the offending compound.

In some cases, getting rid of the smell has unexpected benefits. In the enamelling and paint drying process it was found that the heat derived from the catalytic oxidation of the solvent vapour could be used for heating the ovens. Such cases are, however, exceptions. By and large, removing an odour means added expense. It is therefore important that catalysts should not only be efficient but operate at minimum cost.

Research must start with a means of measuring odours. As Dr. Moss points out, when it comes to smell everybody carries around his own 'apparatus'; the human nose cannot be matched by any known instruments. Scientific equipment cannot measure the degree of unpleasantness of an individual compound and many offending process emissions contain a complex mixture of odoriferous compounds.

As a detector, the 'apparatus' may vary. Nevertheless, with carefully chosen panels of people, useful results may be obtained. The usual practice is to start with a group of people and assess their sense of smell. The two extremes, those with no sense of smell and those with unusually sensitive noses are discounted, leaving a panel of about four to six.

The panel are referred to as 'observers' because, once again, we are bereft of impartial terms. To call them 'good average smellers' might be misconstrued. If they are going to have to discriminate between odours, potential observers go through the 'triangle test.' By this

method, subjects are given three separate flasks, two of which contain identical solutions of vanillin in an odourless solvent and the third a solution of methyl salicylate at the same concentration in the same solvent. These are presented in increasingly dilute concentrations, starting with a 1 per cent solution. Potential observers are scored on their ability to distinguish the odd smell from the two identical ones as the dilution increases.

Having chosen the panel, the most basic method of measuring odours is by using the 'odour room.' At Warren Spring Laboratory this consists of a chamber, lined with aluminium sheet, 12 ft. square and 8 ft. high and equipped with input and exhaust fans which allow for 20 changes of air per hour. Odorous air samples are admitted to the room to produce different odour intensities and the panel members enter to make their individual assessments. The odour threshold is the concentration at which half the panel can just detect an odour.

The disadvantage of the odour room is that it must either be built as a permanent structure next to the factory in question, or have inconveniently large sample volumes transported to it.

For this reason, Warren Spring Laboratory have developed their own apparatus. The samples required are considerably smaller and are easily transported in 'Tedlar' (plastic) bags. The odorous air is diluted with clean air by mixing the two air streams and passing the final mixture through three 'sniffing ports' where observers can judge the odour intensity. It is known as a dynamic odour dilution apparatus and the basic principle is the same as that used in the odour room – the odour is measured by determining the level of dilution at which people can just smell it.

Using these techniques, a special investigation, commissioned by the Agricultural Research Council, has been carried out to try to develop an improved design of plant for drying poultry manure incorporating provision for odour abatement.

In theory, this is a process which should be profitable. Once dried, poultry manure can be sold for about £25-30 a ton as an animal food stuff ingredient. If this is not done, it is a problem which the farmer has, so to speak, on his hands. A thousand birds produce about a ton of manure in one week. With 500,000 birds, this means 500 tons a week. And not all poultry farmers have land on which the manure can be spread as fertiliser. Drying is often the most sensible means of disposal but the difficulty is that local authorities are reluctant to give permission because of the smell.

It was against this background that research began, into both a purely thermal system and a catalytic system. Looking at the technical side, it was decided to test a pilot plant in which the drying air was recirculated – the advantage being that, by reusing the air, less effluent would subsequently need to be treated.

The catalytic system proved more efficient and less costly to operate than the thermal method, although it did involve greater capital costs. This discovery was, however, overshadowed by events outside. The increase in fuel prices could not have been foreseen, but it proved decisive. During the course of the investigation, the fuel used in the pilot plant rose in price from 7p to 20p a gallon. At this level, the plant became uneconomic to run, although it did provide a method of getting rid of the smell and so solving the social problem.

Another example of odour control under investigation involves adsorbents, eg activated

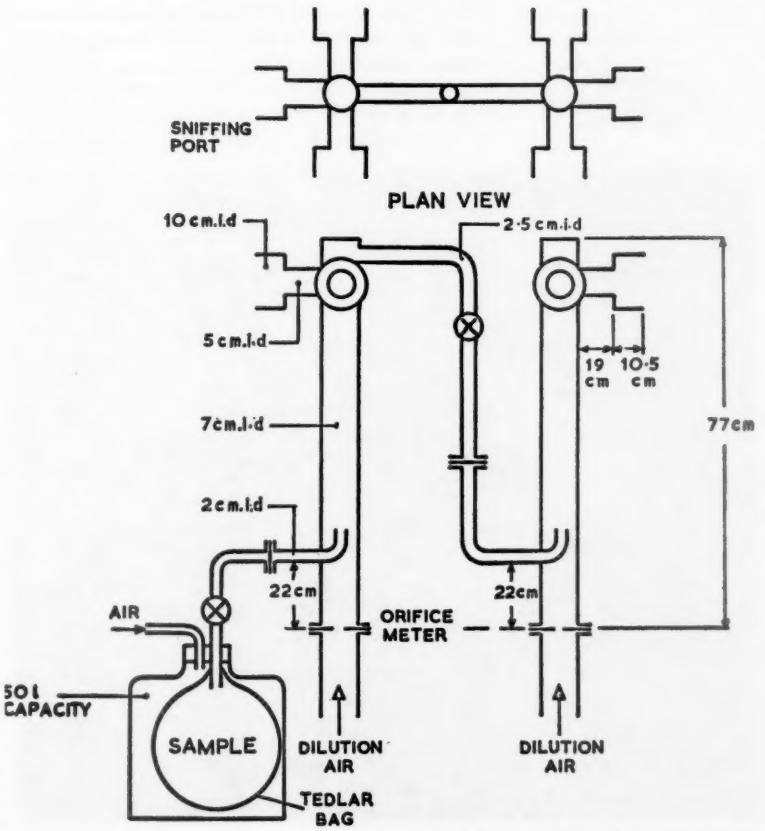


Diagram of two-stage dynamic dilution apparatus for odour sample assessment.

Catalysts at work

continued

Much used in the chemical and petroleum industries catalysts also have other applications. One such is in getting rid of offensive industrial smells.

carbon, as an alternative to catalysts but requiring similar expertise.

One of the firms which had an odour problem and approached the Laboratory to ask for help was a printing works. The interesting fact in this case was that it was not the smell of the printers ink that was causing offence. It was the bacon smoking factory next door, operating under ancient rights. From the neighbours point of view, curing is not necessarily a salutary process. In an attempt to shut out the smell, the organisation was spending many thousands of pounds a year on activated carbon units, installed in the air conditioning, which required frequent changing and had only a limited life. They wanted a more efficient adsorbent and various different materials are being tested on their behalf. Selection of the most efficient material should enable them to make considerable savings.

Activated carbon adsorbents are also being used to remove sulphur dioxide from air. This is at present significant because the Department of the Environment is anxious to reduce the concentration of sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere in museums and art galleries. Although SO_2 occurs at a concentration of only about 0.1 parts per million in air, this is enough to discolour oilpainting, tarnish silver etc. so, inside the museums themselves, it is hoped to reduce this level to a rarefied 0.003 parts per million. A whole range of carbon systems will be tested for use in the air conditioning units and a pilot scale plant is being built to establish the optimum design for reducing sulphur dioxide to trace levels.

An improved design for drying poultry manure, commissioned by the Agricultural Research Council. As the drying air is recirculated, less of it needs to be treated to remove the offensive smell.

In the United States new cars have catalysts fitted to their exhausts, usually in the form of a honeycomb support impregnated with platinum and palladium. By this means, hydrocarbons and carbon monoxide are destructively oxidized and the exhaust gases, to that extent, purified.

Research on vehicle exhaust catalysts is also being carried out at Warren Spring in order to advise the Government on their efficiency for pollutant control especially when using leaded fuels. To do this an engine-dynamometer test rig has been set up. Results have shown that catalysts are 'poisoned' by the lead and have a limited life. New products can also be tested on the engine and claims for removing all the polluting gases from the exhaust can be evaluated.

The catalysis section at WSL has a continuing programme of research on the preparation, characterisation and performance of some of the main types of catalyst in industrial use. The current programme includes work on supported metal catalysts, e.g. small amounts of nickel on silica, platinum deposited as a high dispersion on oxides and work on alloy catalysts which aims to establish the principles for selecting new alloys for catalytic application. It is from this base that the expertise and facilities derive which enable specific projects involving catalysts to be undertaken.

This combination of knowledge and practical experience is available on a repayment basis, so that industry can make use of the facilities and expertise. In recent years, sponsored work has been undertaken into subjects such as chemical processing (eg hydrodesulphurisation catalysts, liquid and gas-phase hydrogenation catalysts), catalytic devices such as catalytic heaters, rocket thrusters and gas detectors and catalysts for pollution control, such as the car exhaust catalysts and the ones used in treating offensive odours.

A co-operative programme was undertaken recently with a leading catalyst manufacturer. This involved research into supported metal catalysts in which different designs were compared. Palladium supported on highly porous carbon granules was being used as the catalyst for liquid phase hydrogenation, in the pharmaceutical industry. The problem was where to put the palladium, or how to locate the metal on the support for maximum performance. As a result of this research, the firm subsequently claimed an increase in their exports.

Also, as part of the sponsored work, a very active form of cobalt oxide has been developed which exhibits remarkably high catalytic activity for certain reactions. A lot is known about its properties and small samples in powder form are available on request, to those interested in investigating its uses.

Technology News

Anglo-Soviet technical science co-operation

The following communique was issued at the conclusion of the fourth session of the permanent UK/USSR Intergovernmental Commission for co-operation in the fields of applied science, technology, trade and economic relations in Moscow on 22 May:

The fourth session of the permanent UK/USSR Intergovernmental Commission for co-operation in the fields of applied science, technology trade and economic relations (hereinafter called the Joint Commission) was held in Moscow from 20-22 May 1975. The Soviet delegation was led by the Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, Chairman of the State Committee for Science and Technology of the USSR Council of Ministers Academician V. A. Kirillin, who presided. The United Kingdom delegation was led by Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, and included Mr. E. S. Bishop, Minister of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and Alex Eadie, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Energy.

The Joint Commission noted that the Anglo-Soviet talks at the highest level held in Moscow in February had created favourable conditions for the further mutually beneficial development of relations between the USSR and the UK in all fields, including the development of trade, economic, scientific and technological relations. In this respect the documents signed during these talks by the Governments of the two countries – the long-term programme for the development of economic and industrial co-operation and the programme for scientific and technological co-operation for a ten-year period and also the agreement on credits for a five-year period – were of great significance.

The Joint Commission noted that trade turnover between the United Kingdom and the USSR grew by about 20 per cent in value in 1974. The amount of orders placed with UK firms by Soviet foreign trade organisations increased significantly in 1974. UK exports had already increased significantly during the first four months of 1975 and the value of UK exports to the Soviet Union would increase very considerably over the whole of 1975. Orders for British machinery and equipment to be delivered in 1975 to 1977 already amounted to more than £160 million (RS260 million).

The Joint Commission noted that, alongside the increase of traditional forms of trade co-operation, new forms of economic co-operation were developing. Views were exchanged about progress in the realisation of the long-term programme of economic and industrial co-operation. It was noted with satisfaction that British firms were carrying on negotiations with Soviet foreign trade organisations in all the different fields of co-operation defined in the programme and that the negotiations were well advanced in regard to: low pressure polyethylene plant, Udokan pilot plant ethylene pipelines, timber pulp and paper complexes, equipment for the chemical, aviation and textile industries, copying machines and presses and metal-working machines. The two sides agreed that they would also welcome a continuing increase in small- and medium-sized orders. The Joint Commission noted that experts had conducted a detailed review of projects within the long term economic and industrial programme and had agreed a report setting out the present stage reached in negotiations.

The Joint Commission expressed the wish that Soviet and British organisations and firms and also the Anglo-Soviet working groups should find new concrete fields of economic and industrial co-operation between the USSR and the United Kingdom additional to the fields set out in the long-term programme of economic and industrial co-operation: and where necessary the exchange of missions at the appropriate level should be encouraged for this purpose.

The two sides agreed to hold regular meetings between the USSR Ministry of Foreign Trade and the Department of Trade of the United Kingdom to review progress in implementing the long term economic and industrial programme and to consider the addition of possible new co-operation projects.

The Joint Commission noted that in accordance with recommendations of the third session considerable progress had been achieved in the past year in scientific and technological co-operation and in particular in the fields of the instrument, machine tool, aviation and automobile industries.

Co-operation has successfully continued in fundamental and applied scientific research and in particular in the fields of radio astronomy, plasma, physics, structural crystallography and friction, wear and lubrication.

The Joint Commission approved the wide-ranging programme in the field of environmental protection.

A number of constructive measures have been taken for the practical implementation of the long-term programme of co-operation in the fields of science and technology.

The Joint Commission recommended that both sides study the possibility of expanding scientific, technological and individual co-operation in such fields as gas turbine engines for civil aviation and industrial application, electrical equipment and systems for aircraft, turbo-generators, large electrical machines, power transformers and high-voltage transmission lines and chemicals for agriculture.

The United Kingdom side put forward suggestions for wide-ranging co-operation in the development of agriculture, including fully-integrated systems for the production of meat and milk and their processing: and also in the food industries. The two sides agreed on the early exchange of delegations to identify and develop areas for further work.

Prospects for co-operation in the field of energy were reviewed. In order to define more closely the prospects for co-operation in the field of nuclear energy a British industrial delegation would shortly be visiting the Soviet Union and a corresponding Soviet delegation was invited to the United Kingdom. The Joint Commission noted that possible co-operation in the development of oil and gas on the continental shelf of the Soviet Union was now entering a new phase.

The Joint Commission reviewed the question of possible ways of further improving the exchange of information for the purpose of promoting the implementation of the long-term programmes for the development of economic, industrial, scientific and technological co-operation. It was agreed that 'Days of Soviet Science and Technology' should be held in London in 1976 and that the possibility of organising other relevant events be investigated.

The fourth session of the Joint Commission took place in a businesslike and friendly atmosphere and in a spirit of mutual respect. The exchange of views which took place during the session reflected the aim of both sides to develop mutual understanding and co-operation between them in trade, economic, scientific and technological relations on a mutually advantageous basis and served to strengthen friendly relations between the USSR and the UK.

During the session of the Joint Commission Peter Shore was received by the Chairman of Gosplan, USSR, N. K. Baibakov; by the Minister of Foreign Trade of the USSR, N. S. Patolichev and by the Minister of Civil Aviation of the USSR, B. P. Bugaev, and had conversations with them.

British experts promote European space developments

Leading British specialists formed part of a team of entrepreneurs promoting European know-how in space research before an international gathering in Noordwijk, Netherlands last week.

At a three-day conference (27, 28, 29 May) on the eve of the new European Space Agency coming into operation, speakers from Hawker Siddeley Dynamics and Marconi Space and Defence Systems discussed development of a new satellite named Marots, designed for an entirely new system of maritime communications. Marots, for which the UK is prime contributor, is one of the main projects in the ESA spacecraft programme.

Polar-vapour detector

As a result of studies on the feasibility of detecting chemical warfare substances, Mr. D. A. Blyth, Miss D. Edwards and Dr. R. G. Picknett of the Chemical Defence Establishment, Porton Down, Wiltshire, have designed an instrument that detects the presence of small amounts of polar vapours (vapours comprising molecules that have an electrical dipole moment) in the atmosphere. The instrument uses the phenomenon that a material exposed to a vapour has a characteristic surface potential, and could have commercial application, for example in the detection of small concentrations of ammonia, sulphur dioxide and hydrogen sulphide, and of certain insecticides.

The detecting element consists of two isolated parallel plates having dissimilar adsorption surfaces separated by an air gap through which the sampled vapour is to be drawn. Polar molecules present are adsorbed by the plates, causing a change in surface potential. The air gap between the plates is made electrically conducting by a radioactive source located upstream, so that the surface potential can be measured by an electrometer. With the most sensitive pair of surfaces so far discovered – gold and silica – polar vapours present in air as only a few parts per million can produce a change in potential of up to 200 mV. Vapour is sucked through the gap using a mechanical pump and a sampling rate of between 1 and 2 l/min is chosen to avoid regions of rapidly changing cell sensitivity and background voltage, and to give high sensitivity without the impedance of the cell being so large as to cause instability.

Ionisation is produced in the prototype by a commercially available polonium 210 radioisotope but a much safer system is americium 241 foil formed into a cylinder with the active surface innermost.

Some experiments have also been carried out with an alternative design with adsorbing surfaces in the form of a coated gold wire 0.5 mm in diameter mounted coaxially within a 6 mm diameter cylinder of gold foil.

The detector cell may be regarded as a voltage source of internal resistance 10^9 to 10^{10} Ω producing a signal of up to 200 mV when a polar vapour is detected. However, there is also background voltage due to the surface potentials of the adsorption surfaces in air and also contact potentials in the circuits themselves; this may be as much as 500 mV and may vary with atmospheric conditions. It is therefore arranged that the background voltage can be 'backed off' using a commercial electrometer

The detector output signal is subject to both short-term fluctuations attributed to variations in vapour content and air temperature, and long-term drift (up to 10 mV per hour), attributed partly to changes in atmospheric humidity. These effects can be combated by various electronic design techniques, and the limit of sensitivity of the instrument will depend on the degree of sophistication of a chosen system.

The detector is most sensitive to relatively involatile materials with high dipole moments – such as some insecticides – but it also responds to certain types of small molecule.

A simpler portable surface-potential detector has been built omitting fluctuation and drift-correction refinements. It uses rechargeable batteries, weighs only 4 kg and can operate for 12 hours without recharging. Initial tests outdoors have shown that the detector is insensitive to petrol and diesel exhaust fumes but responds to 'farmyard smells'.

NRDC would like to hear from companies interested in the possibility of manufacturing vapour detectors using the surface-potential techniques described, and would arrange for the Chemical Defence Establishment to make the advice and assistance of the inventors available to a licensee. Inquiries should be directed to Mr. K. N. Preece, Scientific Equipment Group, NRDC.

WSL scientist writes handbook on silicate flotation

Robert Manser, a scientist at the Department of Industry's Warren Spring Laboratory, Stevenage, is the author of a Handbook of Silicate Flotation which the Laboratory has published. It is the outcome of six years' work on his part.

The author is a member of the 31-man Warren Spring mineral processing team with particular interest in physical/chemical work. He has studied froth flotation properties of silicate minerals for six years.

This handbook is intended to provide the practical mineral processor with a digest of information available from plant and laboratory studies on flotation characteristics of silicates. Control of flotation behaviour of gangue minerals associated with metalliferous ores – of which silicates are the principal class – is often the key to achieving high grade concentrates. Similar control is involved in recovery of particularly valuable silicates by this process.

Mr. Manser's book aims to establish a bridge between the practical operator and the vast amount of flotation literature which exists. It should be of immense help in development of reagent schedules for silicate ores and ores with 'difficult' gangues.

Wastesaver scheme

Gordon Oakes, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of the Environment, has announced a Government research grant of £5,000 for the Wastesaver scheme which Oxfam are running in conjunction with Kirklees Metropolitan Council.

Householders taking part are being asked to separate their domestic refuse into colour-coded sacks for collection and reclamation by Oxfam. The Department of the Environment has already contributed £5,000 worth of publicity aids to the scheme. The research grant is being made in return for information about the public's attitudes to cleaning and sorting domestic waste.

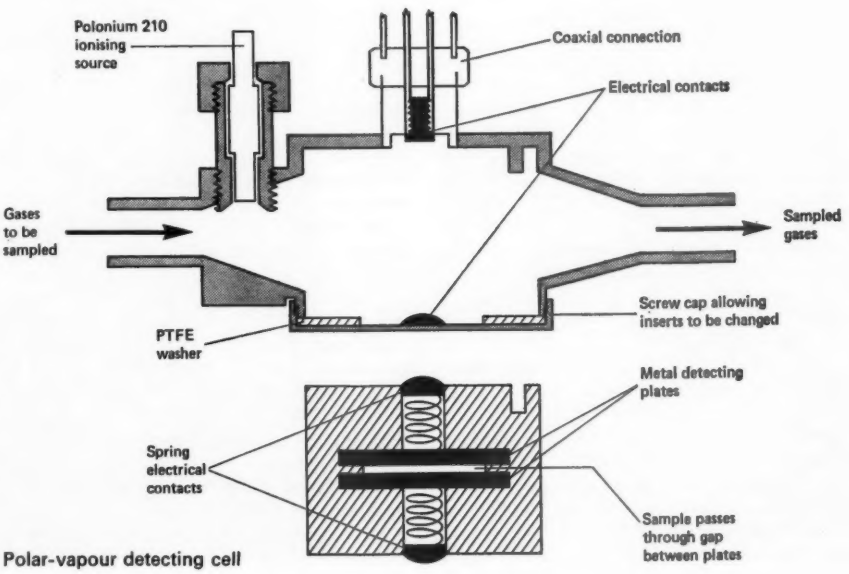
'Ever since this scheme was brought to my attention I have felt it to be a welcome amalgam of the objectives in the Government's current War on Waste,' said Mr. Oakes, who is joint chairman of the Waste Management Advisory Council.

'We consider that operation of this scheme will provide useful practical knowledge of the readiness of householders to clean and segregate different kinds of waste as a matter of routine over a long period, and of the prospects for collection schemes for a number of materials outside the normal local authority refuse collection service.'

Earlier Mr. Oakes visited some of the householders taking part in the project and met staff at Oxfam's Wastesaver Centre.

'I was particularly impressed by the enthusiasm of all concerned and the spirit of informed commitment which Oxfam has already been able to build up,' he said.

'I am very hopeful for the success of this scheme and feel that it could be the forerunner of many more.'



Polar-vapour detecting cell

Parliament

Thursday, 22 May

British Airways

Mr. Michael Marshall (Arundel) asked for the latest estimate of the anticipated trading results for British Airways during the current year.

Mr. Clinton Davis said: 'I understand that British Airways hope to break even after payment of interest in the year ending 31 March 1976. It must be stressed, however, that as less than two months of the current financial year have elapsed and since this is a time of acute uncertainty throughout international civil aviation, there are a number of imponderable factors which could affect the situation and this cannot therefore be regarded as a firm estimate.'

Skytrain

Mr. John H. Cordle (Bournemouth East) asked if the Secretary of State for Trade would give authority for the commencement of the proposed Skytrain service.

Mr. Clinton Davis replied: 'The authority for Laker Airways to commence the "Skytrain" service is contained in the airline's licence from the Civil Aviation Authority. However, in reviewing the Skytrain licence in February this year, the Authority stated they considered current aviation circumstances did not warrant the commencement of this experimental new service for at least a year. In the circumstances I have decided to consider the matter as part of the review of civil aviation policy now in progress and on which I hope to make a statement before the summer recess.'

Cost escalation insurance scheme

Mr. John Cope (South Gloucestershire) asked the Secretary of State for Trade: 'What are the administrative criteria now to be applied in addition to the statutory criteria in deciding which contracts qualify for the Cost Escalation Insurance Scheme?'

Mr. Deakins replied: 'Under the Export Guarantees Amendment Act cost escalation cover can only be given for the purpose of encouraging trade with other countries and payments can only be made to persons who have entered into export contracts as defined in Section 6(5) of the Act.

'The main administrative eligibility criteria are as I announced them on 20 February. The Scheme is intended to assist exporters of major capital goods and with this in mind I have been consulting industry about the application of these criteria in practice.'

'Compass Rose'

Mr. Kevin McNamara (Kingston upon Hull Central) asked if the Secretary of State for Trade has concluded his preliminary inquiry into the loss of the Compass Rose.

'My inspector's inquiries are still continuing,' said Mr. Clinton Davis. 'He is, of course, handicapped by the fact that the vessel was foreign-owned and operated, and we and the French authorities are therefore in touch in order to press the Panamanian authorities to undertake a full public inquiry'.

Mr. McNamara also inquired about discussions with foreign shipowners, charterers and companies operating in the British area of the North Sea oil/gas fields following the loss of the Compass Rose.

Mr. Clinton Davis said: 'My officials had discussions with the United Kingdom Offshore Operators' Association on 14 May concerning matters of marine safety. A proposal for introducing a position reporting scheme for vessels operating in that area was agreed in principle and further discussions will be taking place.'

Court Line

Mr. Neville Trotter (Tynemouth) asked what was the net worth according to their books of the Court Line Companies taken over by the state; and how this net worth compares with the purchase price.

Mr. Meacher answered: 'The shipbuilding, shiprepairing and associated interests of Court Line Ltd. had a net asset value of approximately £14.8 million at the time they were acquired by the Government. The purchase price was £16 million.'

Hosiery and knitted goods

Mr. Jim Marshall (Leicester South) asked what was the level of home production in each quarter of 1973, each quarter of 1974 and the first quarter of 1975, by volume and by value, in the hosiery and knitted goods textile sector in the East Midlands.

'Figures relating to the part of the hosiery and other knitted goods industry located in the East Midlands are not available.

'The total value of sales of hosiery and other knitted goods (including work done) by the United Kingdom industry was:

'It is not possible to give corresponding quantity figures because of the wide range of garments and fabrics involved but full details of their sales in value and quantity are given in Business Monitor PQ 417/1.'

Post Office

Mr. Geoffrey Finsberg (Camden, Hampstead) asked what appointments have been made to the Board of the Post Office since 31 December 1974; for what term of office; what vacancies have occurred since the same date; for what reasons they arose; and how much longer those who vacated office had still to serve.

Mr. MacKenzie gave the following information:

	Date of appointment	Date of termination of appointment
Full time members		
Sir William Ryland Chairman	1.1.75	31.12.77
Sir Edward Fennessy Deputy Chairman	10.3.75	24.7.77
Mr. M. Elderfield	1.4.75	31.3.80
Part time members		
Sir Morien Morgan	17.3.75	16.3.76
Mr. C. Foster	17.3.75	16.3.76
Mr. J. Read	1.4.75	31.3.76
Lord Pitt	1.6.75	31.5.76

Mr. Whitney Straight, part time Deputy Chairman retired from the Board at the end of his term of appointment on 31 December 1974. Professor Sir James Lighthill resigned from the Board on 31 December 1974 while there was still two years of his term of office to run. The demands of his professorial duties was the reason.

The Post Office Board is now only one

£ million

1973				1974				1975
1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.
120.1	129.9	132.7	158.7	124.4	155.4	157.6	180.6	N/A

Ministers at the Department of Industry

Secretary of State for Industry: Anthony Wedgwood Benn
Minister of State: Lord Beswick
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Gregor MacKenzie
Michael Meacher

Ministers at the Department of Trade

Secretary of State for Trade: Peter Shore
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Eric Deakins
Stanley Clinton Davis

Ministers at the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection

Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection:
Shirley Williams
Minister of State: Alan Williams
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State: Robert Maclennan

member short of its statutory limit of 12 (excluding the Chairman).

Regional development in Cornwall

Mr. John Pardoe (North Cornwall) asked for a list of all the types of regional development incentives available in Cornwall, and the annual cost of each type over the last 20 years.

Mr. MacKenzie answered: 'Before 1966 assistance in Cornwall was concentrated on a number of small "Development Districts" which could be altered by administrative action according to the prevailing unemployment rates. In 1966 these Development Districts were replaced by wider "Development Areas" (DAs) and most of Cornwall, together with North Devon, became part of the South West DA. The remaining part was given Intermediate Area (IA) status in 1970.

'Before 1960 assistance was available in the form of Government Factories and certain loans and grants could also be made available to industrial undertakings.

'Between 1960 and 1972 the following measures were in force throughout:

a Building grants
b Loans and grants, the latter normally for unusual intitial expenses or removal costs (DA only)
c Assistance towards the cost of transfer of key workers
d Provision of sites and advance and bespoke factories

'In addition the following changes were made for DAs during that time:

a Free depreciation for certain plant and machinery (1963-66 and 1970-72), preferential depreciation for industrial building (1970-72)
b 10 per cent Plant and Machinery Grants (1963-66)
c Investment Grants (40 per cent 1966 and 1969-70; 45 per cent 1967-68)
d Regional Employment Premium (1967 onwards)
e Selective Employment Tax Additional Payment 1968-70)

'Since 1972 the main measures of assistance have been:

a Regional Development Grants – 20 per cent on buildings (IA and DA); 20 per cent on plant and machinery (DA only)
b Selective Assistance under Section 7 of the Industry Act.
c Regional Employment Premium (DA only)
d Provision of sites and advance and bespoke factories

'Details of the cost of these incentives are not available for Cornwall alone but yearly amounts spent on regional preferential assistance in the South West DA since 1964-65 are estimated to have been:

£ million

1964-65	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74
1	1	1	2	6	6	8	7	5	6

'All expenditure is gross.

'No account has been taken of the differential value of tax allowances which were available at various times during the period.

'Figures for earlier years are not readily available.'

Food prices

Mr. Spearing asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection to publish the estimate she made in calculating the cost of United Kingdom membership of the cost to consumers of the CAP for cereals in 1974 and 1975 to date, specifying the tonnage and type of cereal on which the saving was made.

Mrs. Williams said: 'The latest estimate of the effect of membership on food prices, which shows that membership is at present having no significant effect overall, takes into account the effect of Community financed subsidies as well as levies and duties. In the first quarter of 1975, membership was responsible for a slight overall reduction in prices.

'The estimate of the effect on cereals has been one of significant savings. The bulk of our imports of Community grains are benefiting from Community financed monetary compensatory amounts, which act as import subisidies. Since October 1974 these subsidies are also being paid on UK grain imports from third countries. In addition, during 1974 and early 1975, when world cereals prices exceeded Community prices, export levies were charged on exports of EEC grains to third countries in order to discourage exports and contain prices within the Community. These savings have been made at different times on wheat, maize, barley, oats, rye and sorghum. Details of the volume and type of United Kingdom grain imports are published in Table 7 of the *Annual Review of Agriculture 1975*, Cmnd. 5977.'

Mr. Spearing also asked for an estimate of the effect which each of the food subsidies has had on the food section of the retail price index; and what effect their abolition will have on the total index.

Mrs. Williams said the present savings in the Food Index as a result of the food subsidies are estimated as follows:

	Points
Bread	1.1
Butter	1.0
Cheese	0.6
Household flour	0.1
Milk	2.9
Tea	0.3

It is estimated that the abolition of food subsidies would lead to a rise of 1.4 points in the General Index of Retail Prices.

Mr. Spearing asked what would be the effect on the food section of the retail price index in the event of the price per live hundredweight of beef rising to the EEC intervention level.

Mrs. Williams replied: 'My Hon. Friend will recall that the support system for beef has been renegotiated. UK beef producers' incomes are now supported directly by variable premiums akin to deficiency payments. Under this system intervention takes place only at levels below current average UK market prices. If the support arrangements had not been renegotiated, and were we operating the intervention system at full CAP prices, the effect would probably have been to make the Retail Price Index about one third of 1 per cent higher than it now is.'

North Sea oil industry accidents

Mrs. Winifred Ewing (Moray and Nairn) asked the Secretary of State for Energy, how many fatal accidents and non-fatal accidents causing injury there had been in the North Sea oil operations; how many fatal accident inquiries has been held and where; and what was the total number of accidents reported.

In reply, Mr. John Smith, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Energy, said: 'Accidents on or in the immediate vicinity of offshore oil and gas installations on the UK Shelf are reported to the Department of Energy. Information about fatal accidents and accidents resulting in serious injuries up to the end of 1974 may be found on pages 6, 7 and 35 of the Department's recent publication entitled *Development of the oil and gas resources of the United Kingdom.* Twenty-nine of the fatal accidents occurred in waters off England and Wales and 14 in waters off Scotland. There have been four fatal accidents in 1975, all in waters off Scotland, and 13 accidents resulting in serious injuries.

'Under powers in the Offshore Installations (Inspectors and Casualties) Regulations 1973 the Petroleum Engineering Directorate of the Department of Energy make inquiries about accidents arising from the operation of offshore installations. No record is maintained of the numbers of inquiries made. A public inquiry was held into the loss of the mobile drilling installation *Sea Gem* in 1965, when 13 lives were lost.

'The Department of Trade are notified of fatal accidents to persons employed on British ships but no separate statistics are maintained of such accidents on ships engaged in North Sea oil operations. The reporting of accidents on foreign ships on the high seas is a matter for the flag state concerned.'

English Channel and Celtic Sea exploration

Mr. John Pardoe (North Cornwall) requested a statement about the progress of exploration for oil and gas in the English Channel and Celtic Sea.

Answering, Mr. Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Energy, said that no licences to drill for petroleum in the English Channel had been issued, but seismic surveys had been undertaken. In licensed areas of the Celtic Sea, two wells had been drilled but no discoveries made. Further drilling might take place this year.

Convention on oil pollution damage

Mr. Gordon Wilson (Dundee East) asked for a statement on progress in formulating the North West European Regional Convention on civil liability for damage from oil pollution from offshore operations.

Mr. Smith replied: 'Working parties of representatives from the United Kingdom, France, the German Federal Republic, Belgium, the Netherlands, Ireland, Denmark, Norway and Sweden met twice in 1974 and formulated a draft Convention. The United Kingdom has invited the other countries concerned to an international conference to be held in London in October next to consider the draft with a view to agreeing a Convention.'

Friday 23 May

Price increases

Mr. Donald Stewart (Western Isles) asked if the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection would seek powers requiring all proposed price increases to be referred to her department and accept any such increase only when the need for an increase has been established to her satisfaction.

Mrs. Williams replied: 'Price increases for Category I and II manufacturing and service firms have to be notified in advance to the Price Commission. Proposed increases are rejected or modified if they are not in accordance with the provision of the Price Code. In addition, I have the power to refer to the Price Commission for inquiry any question relating to prices or charges. I have recently made references on the margins of coal merchants and on the prices of sanitary towels and tampons, special diabetic foods and food in outlying areas.'

Price of fish

Mr. John Prescott (Kingston upon Hull East) asked for details of the yearly increase in the price of fish in the retail and wholesale price indices in the last three years and for each month from January 1974.

Mrs. Williams said: 'The index of retail fish prices (quoted below) is the fish subgroup of the Retail Price Index. This subgroup covers fresh fish, fish fingers, canned sardines and canned salmon. The wholesale price index quoted is that for home landings of fish going to processors for use in manufactured foods such as canned fish and fish paste. Its coverage is therefore different from that of the retail price index; but there is no index of wholesale prices which can be linked directly with retail prices for fish as sold by fishmongers.'

	Percentage change	
	Fish retail price index	Fish wholesale price index
April 1972 to April 1973	+25.7	+58.8
April 1973 to April 1974	+31.7	− 4.9
April 1974 to April 1975	+ 7.1	+20.3 (provisional)
1974		
January to February	− 2.0	− 9.8
February to March	—	−15.4
March to April	+ 1.0	− 3.3
April to May	+ 1.0	− 5.6
May to June	− 1.0	− 4.8
June to July	− 1.0	− 1.5
July to August	+ 1.0	− 6.6
August to September	+ 1.0	+28.9
September to October	—	+ 2.2
October to November	—	+ 2.6
November to December	+ 1.0	+ 7.6
December to January	+ 3.0	+ 4.6
1975		
January to February	− 1.0	−25.5
February to March	—	+ 3.7
March to April	+ 2.9	+23.8 (provisional)

Food prices

Mr. Robert Woof (Blaydon) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection: 'In comparing the cost of food in the EEC with that available outside, what weighting is attached to cereal prices in reaching conclusions about the overall effect of EEC membership on food prices in Great Britain?'

Mrs. Williams answered: 'The latest estimate of the effect of membership on food prices shows that at present membership is having no significant effect overall, and in the first quarter of 1975 was responsible for a slight reduction in food prices. The estimate of the effect on cereals prices has been one of significant savings. The weighting attached to cereals prices is related to the annual volume of grains used directly for human consumption in the UK.'

Containers for poisonous substances

Mr. Bryant Godman Irvine (Rye) asked if steps would be taken to ensure that all household containers of poisonous substances are labelled with clear instructions for action to be taken if wrongly used.

'Manufacturers of products which contain potentially harmful ingredients generally include on the labels warnings on hazards and advice about safe use', said Mr. Williams. 'We are carrying out a study of poisoning accidents involving household products with a view to possible improvements in labelling requirements and I shall certainly bear the Hon. Member's suggestion in mind. In emergencies of this nature, however, it is generally advisable to seek medical help immediately rather than lose time in attempts at first aid.'

British investment overseas

Mr. Nigel Spearing (Newham South) inquired about the proportion of British private investment overseas represented by investment in other EEC countries.

Mr. Deakins said: 'At the end of 1971 18 per cent of United Kingdom direct investment overseas, other than oil, banking and insurance, was in the eight other countries now members of the EEC. It is estimated that at the end of 1973 the proportion was about one-fifth.'

Noise insulation grants

How many households in the vicinity of Heathrow qualify for noise insulation grants; and what percentage of these lies to the east of the airport?' asked Mr. Barney Hayhoe (Hounslow, Brentford and Isleworth).

'Exact details are not available,' replied Mr. Clinton Davies. 'It is however estimated that, out of approximately 60,000 dwellings which were eligible when the Heathrow Scheme first came into force in 1966, about 25,000 remain eligible for grant. It is further estimated that roughly 65 per cent of these 25,000 dwellings are within the scheme area to the east of the airport.'

Burden sharing agreement on textiles

Mr. Adam Butler (Bosworth) asked for full details in regard to the exporting countries concerned and the categories of goods involved of the burden sharing agreement on textiles arrived at between the EEC and those exporting countries; and what rate of increase in each category of imports this would mean for the EEC as a whole and for the UK in particular.

Mr. Deakins replied: 'An agreement with India has been initialled. Negotiations are continuing with South Korea, Hong Kong, and Pakistan. Agreement has been reached in Brussels on mandates for negotiations with Brazil, Macao, Malaysia, Singapore, Colombia, and Mexico; and work is well advanced on mandates for negotiations with Japan and Yugoslavia, as well as arrangements for imports from Taiwan. Details in all cases must await conclusion of agreements.'

Concorde

Mr. Michael McNair-Wilson (Newbury) asked why the two Concorde pre-production aircraft are not now to be refurbished to enable them to go into airline service; and what is to happen to these aircraft.

Mr. Meacher said that the two pre-production Concorde aircraft 01 and 02 were designed and built as part of the development programme to standards not now suitable for the requirements of airline service. 'Their work on the development programme is coming to an end but no final decisions have yet been taken about their future,' he added.

Advisory Committee on Oil Pollution

Mrs. Winifred Ewing (Moray and Nairn) asked the Secretary of State for Trade: 'Whether in accordance with the recommendations in the annual report of the Advisory Committee on Oil Pollution, he will take steps to carry out any of the proposals therein, specifically the updating of the present Admiralty charts, the limiting of the size of supertankers, a special early warning system on oil spillage, and monitoring for ships loading oil or unloading it?'

Mr. Clinton Davis replied: 'I have noted the Committee's Report with interest and many of the matters on which it comments are in hand. I would particularly endorse the view expressed that the 1969 Amendments to the 1954 International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution of the Sea by Oil, which have already been implemented by the United Kingdom, should be brought generally into force as quickly as possible.

'The updating of Admiralty charts, including the re-survey of sea areas, is a matter for the Secretary of State for Defence. The promulgation of up-to-date data for the correction of charts goes on continually by various means, and my Right Hon. Friend is not aware of any complaint on that score. The United Kingdom has in recent years, in conjunction with a number of other North Sea States surveyed deep draught routes in the southern part of the North Sea. More recently a Hydrographic Study Group has been identifying present and future survey requirements and determining relative priorities.

'My Department endeavours within its competence to ensure that safety measures for very large ships are adequate and enforced.

'As regards early warning of oil spillages, there are already effective arrangements for reporting spillages at sea; and my Department has recently issued up-to-date advice on the separation of oil and seawater systems aboard tankers.'

Non-knitted textiles

Mr. David Young (Bolton East) asked what is estimated to be the under-usage of capacity in the non-knitted sector of the textile industry.

Mr. Meacher gave the following information: 'There are no official statistics of the under utilisation of capacity in the non knitted sector of the textile industry and the made up clothing industry.

'In February industry estimates of under utilisation of capacity were:'

Cotton and man made fibre weaving	At least 15 per cent
Woollen and worsted spinning and weaving	25 per cent
Made up clothing	10-20 per cent

Mr. Young also asked about the level of import penetration as a percentage of domestic sales in each quarter of 1973, 1974 and the first quarter of 1975 by volume and value in the non-knitted sector of the textile industry and the level of home production in each quarter of 1973, 1974 and the first quarter of 1975 by volume and value.

Mr. Meacher gave the following information: 'The non-knitted sector of the textile industry has been defined to cover the weaving of fabrics by the cotton and allied textile industry and the woollen and worsted industry but figures for made-up clothing (that is garments produced in the clothing industry) are also provided.

(i) Woven cloth — Million square metres

	1973				1974				1975
	Qtr. 1	Qtr. 2	Qtr. 3	Qtr. 4	Qtr. 1	Qtr. 2	Qtr. 3	Qtr. 4	Qtr. 1
Production of cotton cloth	144	137	108	126	105	123	99	126	121
Production of man-made fibre and mixture cloth	175	172	150	176	144	187	163	183	174
Deliveries of woollen and worsted cloth	49	49	43	50	43	47	42	42	38
Total	368	358	301	352	292	357	304	351	333

Source: Textiles Statistics Bureau.
Wool Industry Bureau of Statistics.

'Corresponding figures of the value of production/deliveries given above are not available.

'The value and quantity of sales of cotton and man-made fibre cloth are given in Business Monitor PQ 413 and of woollen and worsted cloth in Business Monitor PQ 414.

(ii) The value of sales of made up clothing was: — £ million

	1973				1974				1975
	Qtr. 1	Qtr. 2	Qtr. 3	Qtr. 4	Qtr. 1	Qtr. 2	Qtr. 3	Qtr. 4	Qtr. 1
Made up clothing	250	248	254	286	263	286	306	339	n.a.

'Corresponding figures of the quantity of sales are not available because of the different types of garments involved but details of the value and quantity of their sales are given in Business Monitors PQ 441-445 and PQ 449.1.

(iii) Estimated import penetration in terms of quantity for woven fabrics was: — Per cent

	1973				1974				1975
	Qtr. 1	Qtr. 2	Qtr. 3	Qtr. 4	Qtr. 1	Qtr. 2	Qtr. 3	Qtr. 4	Qtr. 1
Cotton cloth	59	51	61	57	68	51	53	44	50
Man-made fibre and mixture cloth	40	39	41	40	49	38	43	39	40
Woollen and worsted cloth	9	11	8	7	9	9	9	9	8
Total: woven cloth	47	42	49	45	56	42	44	38	43

'Corresponding figures of import penetration in terms of value are not available.

(iv) Estimated import penetration in terms of value for made up clothing was: — Per cent

	1973				1974				1975
	Qtr. 1	Qtr. 2	Qtr. 3	Qtr. 4	Qtr. 1	Qtr. 2	Qtr. 3	Qtr. 4	Qtr. 1
Made up clothing	15	16	18	18	21	19	18	15	n.a.

'It is not possible to estimate the proportion in terms of quantity because of the different types of garments involved.'

Imports of typewriters

Mr. Kevin McNamara (Kingston upon Hull Central) asked for figures showing the monthly total of imports of typewriters since 1 January, stating the type of machine imported, country of origin and value according to type and country of origin.

Mr. Deakins provided the following information on imports showing the principal countries of consignment:

	January 1975		February 1975		March 1975	
	Number	£'000	Number	£'000	Number	£'000
Electric typewriters:						
Total	10,263	1,720	5,864	1,362	6,497	1,372
of which:						
Federal Republic of Germany	5,104	867	2,089	397	4,444	809
Canada	1,581	289	1,731	338	1,148	215
USA	1,493	206	121	105	390	72
Netherlands	369	180	160	163	147	143
Other countries	1,716	178	1,763	359	368	133
Non-electric typewriters:						
(a) Not exceeding 12 kg.						
Total	13,392	319	4,294	109	4,491	88
of which:						
Federal Republic of Germany	4,465	170	1,407	44	665	18
Portugal	1,781	29	610	10	1,220	21
Spain	919	20	1,327	30	600	13
Netherlands	1,100	23	855	19	300	6
Other countries	5,127	77	95	6	1,706	30
(b) Exceeding 12 kg.						
Total	6,521	516	4,718	397	3,823	318
of which:						
Federal Republic of Germany	5,465	458	3,739	314	3,384	293
Switzerland	3	0	545	52	65	7
Poland	540	28	—	—	347	16
Other countries	513	30	434	31	27	2

EEC grant to Ebbw Vale

Sir Frederic Bennett (Torbay) asked for an estimate of the effect on employment in the steel and related industries of the EEC grant to Ebbw Vale.

Mr. Meacher said, 'The ECSC loan of £15.5 million to the British Steel Corporation will contribute towards the capital costs of the Corporation's new tinplating plant at Ebbw Vale. This development scheme had already been agreed to by the Government and its implementation is not dependent on this loan.'

Imports of leather footwear

Mr. Mike Noble (Rossendale) asked whether the approaches to Poland, Czechoslovakia and Romania about their exports to the UK of men's leather footwear have been concluded.

Mr. Meacher said: 'The countries concerned have undertaken that their exports to the UK in 1975 of men's leather footwear (excluding sandals) will be at a level between 5 and 10 per cent below that of comparable exports in 1974. This represents a decline of some 300,000 pairs. The situation will be reviewed later in the year; meanwhile imports will be closely watched.'

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor should be addressed to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 437, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, and *not* to HMSO.

Missions and Tours

City represented at Tokyo conference

Gordon Richardson, Governor of the Bank of England, headed a group of 35 members representing City interests at a joint Anglo-Japanese conference in Tokyo from 26-28 May. Arrangements for the delegation were made by the British Overseas Trade Board in association with the Committee on Invisible Exports.

Mr. William Clarke, director of the Committee on Invisible Exports, said the purpose of the conference was to promote financial relations between London and Tokyo and to explore how Britain's invisible earnings could benefit. Papers read by the British team included *Recycling the Oil Billions*, *Insuring New International Risks* and *World Shipping Problems.*

Following the Tokyo conference the delegation went on to Seoul, under the leadership of Lord Diamond, to take part in a two-day symposium from 29-30 May on 'Finance and Resources in the Post Energy Crisis Period'. The subjects discussed included the background to the world economy and the financial markets, development of a local money market, the financing of industry and commerce, development of a stock exchange, commodity dealing, shipping services and London merchant houses. During the seminar nine papers were read by members of the British group.

Sponsored by the British Overseas Trade Board the Bristol Chamber of Commerce trade mission to Nigeria left Bristol on 1 June for an intensive 14-day sales campaign. The 20 delegates, mainly from the West of England, who will be promoting everything from hair ornaments to fork-lift trucks, attended a reception in Harvey's Wine Cellar, Bristol, to meet Mr. James Owoyine, Nigeria's Assistant Commercial Attaché. The mission leader is Mr. Charles D'Alton, Harvey's Overseas Area Manager for Africa. Continuing their expanding programme of export promotion, the Bristol Chamber is now assembling the next mission to New Zealand and Australia, leaving on the 4 September. Later in September another mission departs to Texas for companies interested in the off-shore industries.

Yorktrade 4 to Far East

An engineering trade mission of 23 members left for a three week visit to Bangkok, Singapore and Hong Kong on Friday, 9 May.

The mission, Yorktrade 4, was organised by the British Overseas Trade Board and the Yorkshire and Humberside Region Engineering Industries Association.

Middle East plans

Arrangements are in hand for a trade mission to the Middle East to be sponsored by the British Ceramic Plant and Machinery Manufacturers' Association and supported by the Department of Trade and Industry. Scheduled for the first half of 1976, the itinerary will include Iran, Iraq and Saudi Arabia, and support for the Mission has already been indicated by several UK equipment manufacturers. Further information can be obtained from the Association at P.O. Box 9, Sunbury, Middlesex, tel. Sunbury 83280 or 87352.

Fourth mission will go to Japan

Mission number four in the North of England Development Council's 1975 export campaign will leave for Tokyo on 7 November and return on 23 November. The mission qualifies for Department of Trade financial help towards the expenses of the trip.

NEDC Director Mr. John L. Hobbs said: 'It may seem early days to be inviting Northern firms to join this mission, but with the distance and language problems involved, plenty of time is needed for preparations to ensure that Mission members meet the appropriate buyers in Tokyo and that the Mission receives the best possible back-up services.'

The timing of the Mission is particularly appropriate since it will be following the enormous interest in Britain and British goods generated by the Royal visit. At the same time, the planning stages of the mission have coincided with a widely-publicised exhortation by the Japanese Prime Minister urging British manufacturers to intensify their export sales drives in his country.

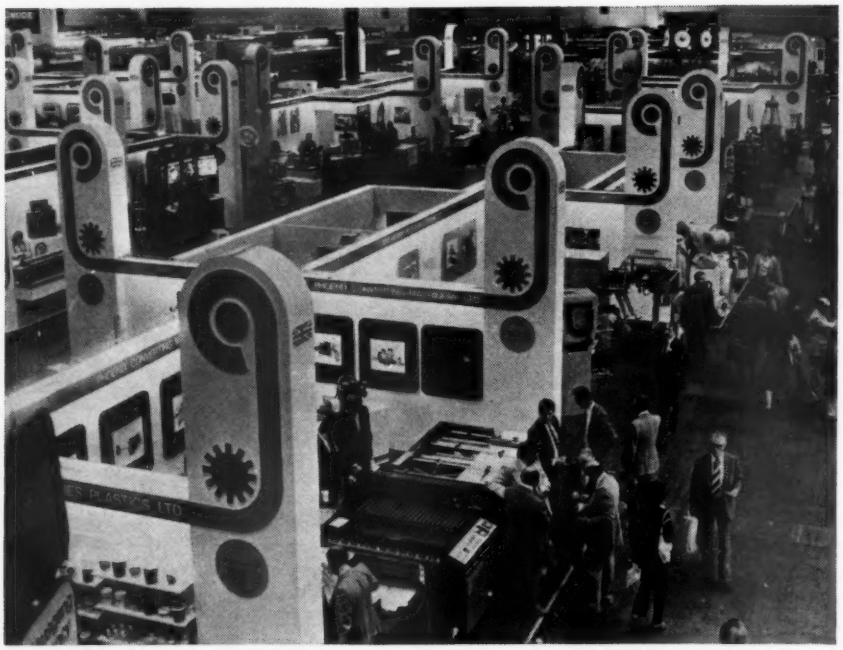
NEDC is asking companies interested in joining the mission to write without delay for more detailed information from Alan Wilson at the Council's office in Stephenson House, Castle Centre, Stockton onTees.

Norwegian brewers' visit

A party of Norwegian brewers recently visited this country as the guests of the British Overseas Trade Board, Overseas Visitors Bureau and the Allied Brewery Traders' Association.

The group spent a week in this country visiting factories and breweries to see the modern equipment produced here.

Exhibitions and Fairs



Increased automation main trend at Dusseldorf's Interpack

From J. Pasquill, Vice-Consul (Commercial), Dusseldorf: The seventh international exhibition of packaging machinery, packaging materials and confectionery machinery – Interpack '75 (*pictured above*), the world's most important exhibition of its kind – took place from 9-15 May against a background of general economic recession. But any fears the organisers may have had that attendance or business conducted would be seriously affected were soon dispelled; 97 per cent of the exhibitors declared that they were satisfied with the results of the exhibition.

The exhibition, which with 1,129 exhibitors was larger than ever, attracted 112,000 visitors. Attendance was 10 per cent less than at the last Interpack in 1973. But for a trade fair of this kind attendance figures alone do not tell the full story and it is significant that at 38 per cent of the total the highest ever number of foreign visitors was recorded.

During recent months the packaging industry has been faced with fewer orders and sinking profits. Competition has become stiffer and this situation, coupled with enormous increases in the costs of energy and raw materials, has given more impetus to packaging engineering and technology, where the main trend, as could be seen at Interpack, is increased automation. There is also a greater tendency towards the rationalisation of production and packaging of goods, especially in the confectionery industry. Packaging itself is becoming more functional and economical and unnecessary trimmings, which in recent years have led to criticisms of overpackaging, are out.

Interpack is organised by the Dusseldorf exhibition authorities under the auspices of the Packaging and Confectionery Machinery Division of the Association of German Machine Manufacturers (VDMA) in conjunction with several other trade associations representing the paper, glass, chemical, woodworking and aluminium industries.

The UK provided the largest national contingent at this year's event and was represented by a joint venture sponsored by the Institute of Packaging and supported by the Department of Trade, in which 49 firms took part, and by 29 firms showing independently. The joint venture exhibitors reported over 4,500 serious inquiries from all parts of the world.

Orders placed at a trade fair of this nature are not common but over £270,000 worth of business was booked by the official exhibitors, who estimated that follow-up business to the tune of £6 million would materialise as a result of their showing at Interpack. The independent exhibitors expressed satisfaction with both the level of inquiries and business done. In fact quite a number of British exhibitors, joint venture and independent alike, declared that this was their best Interpack ever.

Interpack is usually held every three years in Dusseldorf and the next exhibition will be held from 8-14 June 1978.

Strong UK presence at Frankfurt fair

From R. Weatherburn, British Vice-Consul, British Consulate-General, Frankfurt: The British presence at Interstoff (International Clothing Textile Trade Fair) has steadily developed over the history of the fair and at the 33rd in this series of bi-annual fairs, which took place in the Frankfurt fair grounds from 12 to 15 May, the British clothing textile industry was again strongly represented. Out of a total of 719 direct exhibitors (a further 129 firms were represented) no less than 100 were from the United Kingdom.

As on previous occasions, British participation was effectively spearheaded by two large joint ventures sponsored by the British Overseas Trade Board in conjunction with the National Wool Textile Export Corporation. The pan-textile group was the larger of the two ventures and comprised 58 firms. The hit of the show was, undoubtedly, the co-ordinated fabrics, which created considerable interest, particularly amongst French buyers. Results achieved by exhibitors of jersey differed sharply; the higher quality ranges and those of particular creative design were certainly going better than the ordinary run-of-the-mill lines. Tartans, which always generate a tremendous amount of interest at Interstoff, were as popular as ever.

Although the November event is the more important of the two for exhibitors of menswear, according to the fair authorities' figures, about 40 per cent of the collections on show contained fabrics for menswear. In this sector the British joint venture was made up of 29 firms.

Although on this occasion there seemed to be fewer Scandinavian buyers in attendance, the pattern of visitors was otherwise much the same as at previous events in this series of fairs and, as is usual at an international event of this kind, British firms received inquiries from and did business with customers from all over the world.

Ministers at Paris show

Lord Beswick, Minister of State, Department of Industry, visited the Paris International Aeronautics and Space Exhibition on 30 May, the official opening day. Stanley Clinton Davis, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Companies, Aviation and Shipping will visit the show on 7 June. The exhibition closes on 8 June.

Over 50 British firms are taking part within a joint venture group supported by the British Overseas Trade Board in collaboration with the Society of British Aerospace Companies.

Best of Britain in Australia

From Guy Roberts, Fairs and Promotion Branch, in Sydney: Additional purchases of British merchandise worth $A4 million by the David Jones store group were the background to the British Overseas Trade Board-supported 'Best of Britain '75' promotion held in Sydney and other Australian cities between April and June this year.

Long and detailed planning by DJs for this largest ever British promotion resulted in a series of special activities. Support from BOTB included the provision by Fairs and Promotions Branch of the central feature of the promotion in Sydney, the Winston Churchill Centenary Exhibition, as well as a range of display material.

Another special feature was a ⅛ replica of Nelson's Column, made in London by Julian Pemberton and shipped to Sydney to stand at the corner of DJ's Market Street store.

Also presented by DJs was Monty Berman's Kings and Queens of England costumed figure exhibition brought from London.

Activities by individuals flown from Britain by British Airways formed focal points in different parts of the store. They included the already acclaimed Tate Gallery 'Kids-play' exhibit, craftsmen from Coalport, Doulton and Wedgwood, consultants from Mary Quant, Viyella and Simplicity Patterns, advice on hat styles by the Queen's Hatter, Freddy Fox, himself an Australian, flower arrangements by a Constance Spry expert, silversmiths from Viners and Dixons, lectures on interior styling by Lord Kenilworth and a demonstration of needlepoint by his wife, entertainment by three minstrels, a honky-tonk pianist and a bagpiper and announcements by Alfie Howard, the town crier of Lambeth.

The store management is convinced that this increased demand, stimulated by the 'Best of Britain' promotion, will continue well after the attractions, specially put in to boost the interest of shoppers in things British, have gone back to Britain.

Technology display in Toronto

Visitors to the National Industrial Production and Machine Tool Show in Toronto from 12 to 16 May were impressed by the huge amount of space taken up by the 49 British exhibitors taking part in the British group display.

Occupying 44 stands covering over 18,000 sq. ft., they were grouped together in one of the most easily accessible areas of the gigantic coliseum building at the Canadian National Exhibition grounds. The British display, which was the biggest of the 25 national displays in the show, was a joint venture by the British Overseas Trade Board with the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Gauge and Tool Makers Association. It was Britain's biggest single trade manifestation in North America this year.

Goods on show ranged from die-casting machinery, hydraulic presses and electronic control equipment to automatic lathes and small tools, fork lift trucks and environmental services.

Adjacent to this show of engineering 'muscle' was a special display of British technology – called 'Tech-Ex' – opened by Stanley Clinton Davis, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Department of Trade, who visited the Toronto show on 12 May. The display demonstrated, with both graphics and hardware, some contemporary British technological achievements and was a marked success; there was nothing like it in the show and the crowds visiting the display booths voiced their interest and admiration.

The biggest crowd puller was the 'river of magnetism', a working model of a magnetic river linear motor system developed by Professor E. R. Laithwaite of the Imperial College of Science and Technology. There was also very great interest shown in the exhibits of British metric conversion units.

A symposium of British technology – also named 'Tech-Ex' – was timed to coincide with the show and was held on 13, 14, 15 and 16 May under the sponsorship of the British Canadian Trade Association in collaboration with the British Consulate-General in Toronto. It was staged by the British Overseas Trade Board with the aim of demonstrating how British industrial technology is keeping pace with the increasing demand for sophisticated and cost-effective equipment for the machine tool and production engineering industries. Opened by Sir Ieuan Maddock, Chief Scientist of the (UK) Department of Industry, the symposium covered laser technology, metrology and metrication, computer technology for engineering, and machining and grinding.

Stanley Clinton Davis (left) is shown the model of Toronto's new 1/3 mile high CN observation and communications tower which stood at the entrance to the British Tech-Ex display at the show; with him are (centre) Mr. R McC. Samples, British Consul General in Toronto, and Miss Mariam Khachadorian of the British Consulate General's staff.

TV sets a big feature at Johannesburg

From D. G. Wright, Vice-Consul (Commercial) British Consulate General, Johannesburg: With nearly 500 exhibitors including West Germany and Austria among the four national pavilions, the Rand (formerly Easter) Show opened in Johannesburg later this year to coincide with the revised school holidays and in successful expectation of better weather. A record breaking 720,000 visitors (including a Saturday gate of over 140,000) enjoyed the annual mixture of a Bath and West Show and an Ideal Home Exhibition; with cable cars, a fairground and an open arena featuring stock cars, show jumping, military bands, etc, as additional attractions.

Inevitably, with the imminent introduction of television to South Africa many of the exhibition stands featured TV sets, which drew crowds of viewers eager to sample a new experience.

For the first time since 1971 an officially supported British trade organisation was present, with 19 exhibitors mounting stands in a joint venture between the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce and Department of Trade. The exhibiting firms were an interesting variety of industrial and consumer goods manufacturers, with exhibits ranging from high pressure pumps and soil investigating equipment through animal semen and greenhouses to decorated fibre glass trays and whisky products. Notable other British exhibits at the Show were locally assembled television receivers and a wide range of cars, trucks, tractors and earth moving equipment.

UK industrial exhibitors, despite fears of being overlooked at such a consumer-orientated show, were extremely pleased with the results. Orders of over £50,000 were reported with prospects of substantially increased business.

Industrial successes achieved at this joint venture were sufficient to interest a number of the British exhibitors in returning to the market, and the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce to consider another and larger exhibition at the Rand Show next year.

The Joint Venture gained two awards from the Show judges: an award of merit to the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce for an outstanding contribution to the success of the Rand Show; and a gold medal for an outstanding presentation was awarded for the design, layout and appearance of the stands.

In all it was a successful and rewarding show.

'No room at the inn' for Britain in Copenhagen furniture fair

British Ambassador Sir Andrew Stark (left) relaxes on a suede-covered Chesterfield on the stand of the Traditional Leather Upholstery Co. Ltd. one of 29 firms which exhibited within the British group at the Scandinavian Furniture Fair.

From R. G. Cobley, Commercial Department, British Embassy, Copenhagen: Following on from their successful participation in the first ever International Section last year, British furniture manufacturers returned in increased strength to the Scandinavian Furniture Fair, held in Copenhagen from 7-11 May.

Representatives from 29 companies participated under joint-venture terms, sponsored by the British Furniture Manufacturers Export Club and the British Overseas Trade Board.

On the morning of the opening day, British Ambassador HE Sir Andrew Stark, K.C.M.G., C.V.O., and Lady Stark toured the British section and spoke with representatives on their stands.

Once again it was 'no room at the inn' where the main event, housed at the 'old' Bella Centre, was for the benefit of the Danish, Swedish, Norwegian and Finnish manufacturers only. The British display of furniture, said by people in the trade to be the best and largest showing of quality British furniture ever in Denmark, was for the second year held in the otherwise ideal setting of the purpose-built Mart building adjoining the Sheraton Hotel in the city centre. This site, some five miles away from the main event, proved too isolated for some buyers. This, together with the fact that the economic climate in Denmark is at a low ebb and that most buyers seemed to have spent the greater part of their budget by the time they arrived at the International Section, made orders taken, at about £250,000 a creditable achievement.

Having served a two-year apprenticeship because of lack of space in the 'old' Bella Centre, exhibitors were unanimous in the need to exhibit in the new Bella Centre now nearing completion on Vest Amager and due to be the venue for the Scandinavian Furniture Fair, 12-16 May 1976.

Confident mood at Nor-Shipping '75

From M. A. Burrows, Commercial Department, British Embassy, Oslo: The fifth International Shipping Exhibition – 'Nor-Shipping '75' – opened its doors at the Sjolyst Centre, Oslo, on Monday, 5 May 1975 at a time when the world shipping industry is going through its most difficult period since the last war. The mood of exhibitors and officials, however, generally appeared confident that the crisis would be weathered as industry adapted itself to the changed situation, and that an improvement will have taken place by next year.

Held biennially, Nor-Shipping is a major specialised trade fair comparable in importance to Posidonia (Athens) and Europort (Amsterdam) in the field of shipbuilding, repairing, ships' gear, supplies and services. It is organised by Norges Varemesse – the Norwegian Fair Organisation. The major foreign participations were Britain and West Germany (77 exhibitors each), Sweden (72), USA (50), Denmark (39) and Japan (24).

Britain's prominent position in this exhibition was highlighted by 28 companies who took part, with British Overseas Trade Board support, in group displays sponsored by the British Marine Equipment Council (18 exhibitors) and the Shipbuilders and Repairers National Association (10 exhibitors).

The range of products covered by the two BMEC groups varied from hydraulic systems, boilers, marine navigational aids, engines, pumps and compressors to level gauges, trade journals, radio and communications equipment, paints, bulkhead panels, propellors and sea probe logs.

The SRNA group display was in two parts, one displaying shipbuilding, repairing and marine engine-building activities in an open area, the other consisting of individual displays of insurance, ship classification, a professional institution and marine publishing.

Most representatives were agreed that Nor-Shipping was an event they could not afford to miss, giving as it does the opportunity to renew contacts, meet new customers and assess the market. In addition, Oslo was felt to be an important centre for this type of exhibition, situated at the heart of the influential Norwegian shipping industry.

The consensus of opinion at the end of Nor-Shipping '75, which closed on Saturday, 10 May, was that whilst startling figures of business done could not be expected, the main objective – that of renewing the British presence and maintaining contacts with the world market – had been achieved.

British Marine Equipment Council

Due to a misunderstanding, the British Marine Equipment Council (BMEC) was confused with the British Export Marketing Centre (BEMC) in the heading on page 528 of the 30 May issue of *Trade and Industry;* it should have read 'Double first for BMEC in Tokyo'. In the photograph caption accompanying the article the names of Mr. Ben Thorne and Mr. John Field became transposed.

Interclean's rapid growth

From A. Hazebroek, Commercial Department, British Embassy, The Hague: This year's Interclean Exhibition in the Rai Building, Amsterdam, from 29 April to 2 May was the sixth to be held since its commencement in 1967.

The exhibition has shown a rapid growth over the years. The first time there were 60 exhibitors and some 3,000 visitors. In 1973 this had increased to 180 exhibitors and 8,700 visitors. This year there were 198 participants and attendance figures were expected to be higher than in 1973.

The majority of standholders came from the Netherlands, 139, followed by the United Kingdom with 35, of which 29 took part in a joint venture sponsored by the British Institute of Cleaning Science. Ten firms came from West Germany, six from the United States, three from Belgium, two each from France and Denmark and one from Canada. Besides the countries mentioned, products on show also originated from the Irish Republic, Italy, Japan, Lebanon, Austria, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland.

The exhibition programme contained materials and equipment for industrial cleaning, waste collecting and transport equipment, waste processing and compacting equipment, sewer cleaning equipment and materials and equipment for winterised roads. In conjunction with the exhibition the first European Congress for Scientific Cleaning was held. One of the papers was read by a British expert.

Our joint venture contained a wide range of cleaning materials and equipment. The general opinion of the participants was one of satisfaction. Inevitably, with the large number of firms there, some did better than others but all of them considered their participation in the exhibition worthwhile. Some firms either appointed local agents during the show or expected to do in the near future. Visitors to the joint venture were favourably impressed by the quality and sometimes the ingenuity of the products on display.

Trade Information

Encouraging signs in Anglo-Soviet trade: Peter Shore

The period of stagnation in our trade with Russia is now over, said Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, when speaking to the London Diplomatic Association in London on return from his trade visit to Moscow.

'The Wilson-Brezhnev summit in February marked the start of a new chapter in our relationships, he said. 'I returned from Russia after the fourth Joint Commission meeting in Moscow with a strong impression that both sides want to expand areas of co-operation and trade. This was the clear message I received in all my talks with Soviet leaders, including Mr. Kosygin.

'The signs are already encouraging. We have increased the value of our exports to Russia by 60 per cent in the first quarter of this year compared with 1974. We have doubled the current firm orders for UK machinery and equipment – from £80 million a year ago to £160 million now. And we have more than trebled the potential contracts in an advanced state of negotiation – from £110 million in 1974 to about £370 million now.

'I do not want to build too much on these figures. The contracts, when they are signed, will speak for themselves. But I think it fair to say that there is an increasing tempo in all our exchanges.

'I found three significant developments during my talks in Moscow. First, the Russians recognised – and this came out in all my conversations with their Ministers – that we need to exchange more information about areas of possible co-operation as soon as those areas are identified. This is especially important when we are dealing with centrally-planned economies working to the rhythm of five-year plans.

'Second, as a practical example of this, the Russians listed seven priority areas for development. The list includes a number of priority areas where British industry has been traditionally active – chemicals, non-ferrous metals and timber, paper and pulp. But it also includes new areas in which British firms and organisations are just beginning to interest the Russians – equipment for the aviation industry, nuclear power engineering and agricultural industries.

'Third, we agreed that between the yearly meetings of the Joint Commission there should be regular meetings, for progress-chasing and sorting out problems, between their Ministry of Foreign Trade and the Department of Trade.

Alexei Kosygin, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers (right), with Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade (left), during Mr. Shore's visit to Moscow.

'So the scene is now set for stronger impetus to UK-Soviet trade. It won't happen quickly. It won't be easy. But the atmosphere is right. And the tempo is building up, with the next five-year plan due to be launched next year. We must be ready to make the most of it.'

(The text of the communique issued at the conclusion of the fourth meeting of the Anglo-Soviet Joint Commission for Co-operation in Applied Science, Technology, Trade and Economic Relations is reproduced in the Technology News section).

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Peter Shore renews UK pledge at OECD Council of Ministers

The following statement was made by Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, addressing the Council of Ministers of OECD countries in Paris on 29 May.

'I would like to begin by recalling that, at the discussion which we had round the table when we adopted the Trade Declaration a year ago, a number of points were made which were set out in the communiqué recording the results of our discussion.

'Four of these points I want to refer to today, because they seem to me to set the context in which we need to approach the question, now before us, of renewing the declaration for a further year.

'First we recognised that the then rates of inflation were a threat to economic and social progress and that we must, therefore, accord high priority to reducing the rate of price inflation. Secondly, we agreed that policies to counter inflation must be carefully chosen to avoid serious unemployment problems. Thirdly we agreed to maintain economic activity at satisfactory levels and avoid policies which would transfer employment problems from one country to another. And fourthly we recognised that the OECD countries had, because of the oil price rise, to accept a deterioration in their balance of payments situation.

'In the year that has now past, how far have our policies met the requirements implied in the recognition of those four points? I think we have to say that few, if any of us, have been successful. As regards the first point, the restraining of inflation, I readily concede that we in the United Kingdom have so far lacked success. But when we turn to the other points, I feel that there has been an equal if not greater lack of success on the part of other countries round this table. Have they avoided a serious increase in the rate of unemployment? Have they maintained economic activity at levels which avoid transferring unemployment problems to others? Have they accepted a substantial deterioration in their balance of payments? Well, have they?

'I know , we all know – and I am thinking here primarily of the countries with the strongest and most powerful economies, the countries which should be leading the world out of recession – that the answer is no. We have seen high, unnecessarily high, rates of unemployment. We have seen one major country with an enormous balance of payments surplus.

'I recognise that some of the strongest placed countries have taken substantial measures to reverse at least the discouraging unemployment picture, even if the effects are yet to be seen. They have not all gone as far as we would have liked.

'We are particularly disturbed at the failure of one major country to take what we would regard as reasonably reflationary action. Given the very substantial degree of unused capacity and the striking success in moderating the rate of wage increase, we believe that there is more they could and should do.

'However, despite our anxieties on these points, we are still convinced that the case for the declaration is as strong as it ever was, if not stronger. For many of us, the deficits, and the debts involved in financing them, are still piling up; and we all face socially and politically difficult problems of unemployment. It will help none of us if we try to solve these general problems by exporting them to others.

'My Government therefore agrees that the declaration should be renewed for a further year. But in saying that, there are two qualifications I must make. The first is that the finance to cover the deficits must be available. And here we continue to attach importance to the agreement recorded in the Declaration to co-operate fully to facilitate such financing.

'My second qualification goes back to the points which I made at the beginning of my statement. The renewal of the Declaration must be, as its original adoption should have been, a two sided operation. The countries in a weaker position must seek to avoid unilateral protective action. Yes, but the obverse, indeed the necessary condition, of this is that the countries in a stronger position must play their part by following sufficiently expansionary domestic economic policies which will sustain international demand, increase imports, and thus at least alleviate the problem of the deficit countries. And I have to say that we are able to renew this declaration only on the understanding that the two sided nature of this operation is generally accepted and the stronger countries recognise the obligation on their side to expand their economies sufficiently to avoid making the problem for the deficit countries intolerable.'

Zaire: Penalties for spreading rumours

Penalties for spreading false rumours in Zaire have been announced. A new law provides for imprisonment of from two months to three years, and fines of from 100 to 500 Zaires, for those who 'knowingly spread false rumours of such a kind to stir the population and incite them against established authority'.

For those who 'without having the intention of causing civil commotion have nevertheless knowingly spread false rumours', which have this effect, the prison sentences are from one month to one year and the fines of from 20 to 100 Zaires.

The law was introduced with immediate effect on 14 May.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215-5334.

Denmark: Embassy hours on 12 June

The British Embassy (including the Commercial Department) at Copenhagen will be closed for half a day – after 1200 – on 12 June.

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ECGD news

Cement plant extension in Irish Republic

The Export Credits Guarantee Department has guaranteed an £18.2 million line of credit to help finance contracts placed in the United Kingdom for the expansion to cement works at Platin in the Irish Republic. Finance for the loan was made available by Midland Bank Ltd. to the Irish company of Cement Ltd. a subsidiary of Cement Roadstone Holdings Ltd.

Contracts have been placed with F. L. Smidth and Co. Ltd., Croydon, who will provide most of the equipment including cement-making machinery, rotary kiln, roller mill and electrical equipment; Polysius Ltd., of Ascot, Berkshire, will provide cement grinding plant.

The extension is scheduled to be completed early in 1978 and will produce an extra 3,000 tons of cement each day when in full production.

Cuba: £7.6m contract for tugs and dredges

The Export Credits Guarantee Department has guaranteed a £6 million loan to help finance the purchase from the UK of tugs, dredges and associated floating plant by Empresa Maritimo Portuaria de Importacion of Cuba. The equipment worth over £7.6 million is being supplied by Seadrac Ltd. of Paisley, Scotland.

The contract is being financed by National Westminster Bank, which is making a loan available to Banco Nacional de Cuba. Delivery of the equipment is scheduled for completion by the end of 1976.

Over £1,000 million Midlands exports covered

The Export Credits Guarantee Department covered exports from the Midlands worth over £1,000 million during the year ended 31 March 1975, compared with £770 million the previous year.

At the end of the year ECGD, which protects exporters against the main risks of non-payment, and covers nearly 40 per cent of all British exports, had about 1,500 policyholders in the Midlands. During the year 135 exporters became new policyholders, responsible for about £100 million of exports – ranging from £150,000 to £13 million in individual annual export turnover.

ECGD's Birmingham office, which covers the counties of West Midlands, Leicestershire, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Nottinghamshire, Warwickshire, Worcestershire and the greater part of Derbyshire, handles about 20 per cent of the Department's total short-term business (on credit given up to six months), more than any other office outside London. Its policyholders are drawn from the major exporting industries in the region, including vehicle and component manufacturers, electrical engineering and makers of construction plant, textile machinery, pottery, ceramics and carpets.

Frank Wilmot, the Regional Director, said: 'It has been a good year for many Midlands exporters. I am glad that the facilities ECGD offers are becoming increasingly well known and well used.'

The number of policyholders and value of exports covered in the region's major centres during the year 31 March was:

	No. of policyholders	Approximate value of exports during the year (£ million)
Birmingham and Solihull	290	350
Coventry	30	135
Wolverhampton	48	25
'The Black Country' (excluding Wolverhampton)	225	75
The Potteries and Burton-on-Trent	110	35
Nottinghamshire	130	60
Derbyshire	140	60
Leicestershire	250	130

The remaining policyholders, whose business made up the total regional value of more than £1,000 million of exports covered, were in other parts of the region.

First contract performance bond guaranteed

The Export Credits Guarantee Department is supporting the provision by National Westminster Bank of performance bonds in respect of a £46 million contract. This is for the construction of a 303 km. highway on the Shurgaz, Zahedan, Mirjaweh route by Marples Ridgway Ltd. of Bath for the Ministry of Roads and Transportation, Iran.

This is the first contract won with ECGD backing for performance bonds under the new arrangements announced in February by Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade.

(A performance bond is a bond provided by a financial institution as security for the performance of a contract. ECGD, in turn, guaranteees the provider of the bond in the event of its implementation.)

General valuation statements for London, Dover, Hull and Southampton

HM Customs and Excise announce that a system of General Valuation Statements which has operated successfully at Liverpool since March 1972 is to be introduced on a trial basis at London, Dover, Hull and Southampton. It will start on 1 July. The system relieves importers receiving a regular flow of consignments from the same seller under the same conditions from having to complete individual declarations on Form C105 in almost identical terms for each consignment. Further particulars can be obtained from the Collectors of Customs and Excise at the ports concerned.

Hints to business men booklets

Revised editions of the booklets on The Gambia, Guatemala, Colombia, Jamaica, Portugal and the USA have been published in the 'Hints to Business Men' series. British business men who intend visiting these countries on export business can obtain copies of the booklets from Export Services and Promotions Division, Department of Trade, Room D 05-09, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel: 01-248 5757 ext. 7146) or any Regional Office of the Department of Industry.

Tariff and Trade Notices

Netherlands

Socks made from acrylic fibres: import licensing. The Netherlands *Staatsblad* 1975, 190 (published on 29 April 1975), contains a decree of 14 April 1975 under which, with effect from 1 July 1975 and until further notice, an import licence is required for socks made from acrylic fibres (ex BN 60.03) – not ladies' stockings. The licence has to be obtained by the Dutch importer. There is no quantitative restriction on the import of these goods originating from the United Kingdom. No further information is available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 288/466/467.

Ureum: import licensing lifted. The Netherlands *Staatsblad* 1975, 196 (published on 1 May 1975), contains a decree of 18 April 1975 under which, with effect from 2 July 1975, an import licence is no longer required for ureum (ex BN 31.02). No further information is available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 288/466/467.

France

Global quotas: The French *Journal Officiel*, 7 May 1975, announced the opening for the first half of 1975 of the following quotas for the importation of goods from all countries outside the Franc Zone and excluding Rhodesia.

Applications for import licences on form AC should be sent to the Direction Générale des Douanes et Droits indirects, Service des autorisations financières et commerciales, 8 rue de la Tour des Dames, 75436 Paris CEDEX 09. Application forms must bear in the appropriate place the inscription 'Contingents globaux – Avis du 7 Mai 1975 No. de Code . . . . .'.

A Products to be imported under licences for which applications are examined as and when received.

Quota code no.	Tariff no.	Product
1	02.01 BII ex d(1)	Offal, of sheep
2	ex 07.01	Fresh vegetables not falling within quality standards and intended for industry
3	07.04 ex C(2)	Dried, dehydrated or evaporated vegetables
4	08.01 ex B	Dried bananas
5	ex Chap 20 (2)	Preparations of vegetables, fruit or other plants and parts of plants
6	Miscellaneous (2)	Various agricultural products with the exception of those imported under the minimum price arrangement
7	Miscellaneous (2)	Various sea fishing products
8	27.11 ex B	Petroleum gases and other gaseous hydrocarbons in containers
9	73.02 AII, C, D, E, ex G	Ferro-alloys, metals and scrap of non-ferrous metals
11	Miscellaneous (2)	Various products imported under the authority of the Service de la Géologie, Métaux, Minerais et Matériaux de Construction de la Direction de la Technologie, de l'Environnement et des Mines
12	73.01 ex B	Charcoal iron
13	Chap. 91	Clocks and watches and parts thereof
14	Miscellaneous (2)	Various products of the metallurgical industry (other than ECSC products) mechanical and electrical
15	85.21 D ex E	Diodes, transistors and similar mounted devices incorporating semi-conductors, electronic micro-structures. Parts
16	Miscellaneous (2)	Various equipment under the authority of the Direction des industries de l'electronique et de l'informatique
17	Miscellaneous (2)	Sundry raw materials and miscellaneous products for the chemical industry
18	Miscellaneous (2)	Various products under the authority of the Direction des industries chimiques, textiles et diverses
19	89.01 BI, ex 89.02	Sea-going vessels and tugs
20	Miscellaneous (2)	Various aeronautical equipment

(1) Imports of the products listed under Code No. 1 are reserved for importers who have contracts with ONIBEV (office national interprofessional du bétail et des viandes).
(2) Importers must specify on their licence applications the customs tariff numbers of the goods. For quotas 3, 5 and 6 they should refer to the notice of 26 January 1963 which laid down the rules to be followed in making import licence applications in respect of certain agricultural food products.

B Products to be imported by Associations or similar organisations

Quota code no.	Tariff no.	Product
21	ex 27.01, ex 27.02, ex 27.04	Solid mineral fuels—Association Technique de l'Importation Charbonnière, 149 rue de Longchamp, Paris, 16e.
22	48.01 A	Newsprint—Société Professionnelle des Papiers de Presse, 8 rue Yvon Villarceau, Paris, 16e.

Copies of the French text can be sent on request or seen at Export House. Inquiries: EDB ext. 423/408/482.

Further information

In many cases further information on the notices published on these pages is available to British exporters from the Department of Trade. The main branches concerned are: Commercial Relations and Exports (CRE) Divisions, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel: direct dialling); and Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section (OTAR), Export Data Branch, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel: 01-248 5757). In each case, the relevant information source is indicated at the end of the notice by its initials (OTAR or CRE) and, in the case of OTAR, the telephone extension. In the Tariff and Trade Notices section countries are grouped by continents as far as possible; they are listed alphabetically on the contents page.

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Export pictures

Each week *Trade and Industry* publishes pictures illustrating Britain's export business. Companies with export successes are invited to send in the story, with a photograph showing the goods in manufacture, ready for despatch, or, preferably, on arrival overseas. The story must, of course, reach us while it is still news. Send your news and photographs to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 439, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

Changes in customs documentation. To simplify documentation the French customs service has issued three new types of forms to replace a number of customs declarations in use up to 30 April 1975.

Form 1 Declaration 'C' – For retail sale
replaces forms D3, D3P, SF3 and D53.

Form 2 Declaration 'S' – Warehousing and temporary admissions
replaces forms D10, D11, D11AV, D11P, D12P, D18 and D33.

Form 3 Declaration 'A' – Goods in transit (national)
replaces forms DTS, DTSD, D15, SF15, D24, D26, D27, D29 and D30 ter.

The new forms came into use on 1 May 1975 and, for technical reasons, no exceptions to the rule can be made. Specimen copies of the forms can be seen at Export House. OTAR ext. 423/408/482.

Norway

Food additives (further information). The 1975 list of approved food additives for Norway mentioned in *Trade and Industry* on 14 March 1975 has been amended as follows:

In Group IV (c) the maximum level of alginates for fish force meat products has been changed to 0.5g/100g.

The following items have been added to Group VII (c): Amylase; Propionic acid and its calcium and sodium salt in bakery fat mixtures up to 0.2g/100g; Sorbitan fatty acid esters.

To Group X has been added: Acetylated starch glycerol to canned infants' food. The obligatory declaration for this item is 'Approved modified starch added' (Tilsatt godkjent modifisert stivelse).

No further information is available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 458/459.

Switzerland

Ban on 'Tivoli' gaming machines. It has recently been reported in the Swiss Press that the use in Switzerland of coin-operated, pay-out, gaming machines of the type known as 'Tivoli' will be banned on 1 October 1975. Swiss firms and persons have 30 days in which to lodge formal protests against the ban. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 460/461.

Soft cheeses: import duties. *Trade and Industry*, 13 September 1973, published details of a Swiss Federal Council Order, 20 July 1973, temporarily increasing the import duty on certain soft cheeses classified under BN 04.04. This Order has now been revoked. From 1 May 1975 the revised rate for these cheeses is SF 50 per 100 kg. gross. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 460/461.

Italy

Manufacturing tax on lighters. Italian Decree-law No. 19 of 20 February 1975 sets out increases in manufacturing tax rates on certain types of lighters (see *Trade and Industry*, 15 April). The decree became Law No. 109 with effect from 21 April, but contains several amendments to the tax rates. The list of products and new rates, where applicable, are set out below:

Cigar lighters for cars	increased from 300 lire to 600 lire per lighter (no change)
Disposable lighters, ie lighters which cannot be refilled	increased from 400 lire to 600 lire per lighter (previously 400 lire to 800 lire)
Other types not included in above	increased from 800 lire to 1,500 lire per lighter (no change)
Main parts or spare parts	increased from 100 lire to 150 lire per lighter (no change)
Domestic gas lighters	increased from 150 lire to 200 lire per lighter (previously 150 lire to 250 lire)
Gas lighters fitted to cookers	increased from 600 lire to 1,000 lire per lighter (no change)

Copies of Law No. 109, in Italian, are obtainable from OTAR Section, Export House, Ludgate Hill, London EC4. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 466/467/288.

Spain

Home compensation tax. *Trade and Industry*, 13 February 1975 (page 386), announced a temporary concessional rate of home compensation tax levy valid until 15 March 1975 on the following tariff headings: 12.01.B.3, ex 12.02.B, ex 23.04.B and 15.07.A.2.a.7. The Spanish *State Gazette*, 21 May 1975 announced the extension of the validity until 15 June 1975.

Iron and steel products. *Trade and Industry*, 7 March 1975, announced a temporary concessional rate of 1.5 per cent valid until 8 April 1975 on tariff headings 26.01.A.2 and 27.01.A. The Spanish *State Gazette*, 21 May 1975 announced the extension of the validity until 17 July 1975. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 462/471/472/473.

Portugal

Reimposition of duty – synthetic textile fibres. *Trade and Industry* of 3 October 1974 published details of Portuguese Decree Law 403/74 temporarily exempting from import duty synthetic textile fibres other than polyester or regenerated fibres falling within BN heading 56.04.

Diario No. 100 of 30 April 1975 published a despatch which suspends this provision until 31 December 1975. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 460/461.

Israel

Animal diseases ordinance. The Israeli Minister of Agriculture has issued regulations on the importation of vaccines, micro-organisms and carriers, and the keeping and production thereof. Details are available to British exporters. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 475/420.

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Customs Tariff Amendments: The Israeli authorities have announced the following amendments to the customs tariff:

Item no.	Description	Rate of duty
29.25	After section 3300 shall be inserted:	
4000	3,5-diacetamido-2,4,6 tri-iodobenzoic acid	25% *ad val.* kg.
4100	lignocain; lignocain hydrochloride	25% *ad val.* kg.
4200	3,5-dinitro-0-toluamide (DOT)	25% *ad val.* kg.
29.35	After section 3500 shall be inserted:	
4000	mepyramine maleate; pyrilamine maleate	25% *ad val.* kg.
4100	2,4-diamino-5 (3,4,5-trimethoxybenzyl)-pyrimidine (trimethoprim)	25% *ad val.* kg.
4200	phanquone	25% *ad val.* kg.
4300	chlorpomazine	25% *ad val.* kg.
4400	perphenazine	25% *ad val.* kg.
4500	furazolidone	25% *ad val.* kg.
4600	furaltadone; furaltadone hydrochloride; furaltadone tartarate	25% *ad val.* kg.
4700	imipramine	25% *ad val.* kg.
	Item 29.36 is superseded by:	
29.36	Sulphonamides	
1000	chlorothiazide	25% *ad val.* kg.
1500	probenecid	25% *ad val.* kg.
2000	frusemide	25% *ad val.* kg.
9900	Other	Exempt kg.
	Item 29.41 is superseded by:	
29.41	Glycosides, natural or produced by synthesis and their salts, ethers, esters and other derivatives	
1000	trihydroxyethylrutoside	25% *ad val.* kg.
9900	Other	Exempt kg.
29.44	Section 9900 is superseded by:	
9900	Other	
9910	chloramphenicol; chloramphenicol palmitate powder; chloramphenicol succinate; chloramphenicol succinate monoethanolamine salt	25% *ad val.* kg.
9920	erythromycin stearate; erythromycin ethyl carbonate; erythromycin estolate; erythromycin ethyl succinate	25% *ad val.* kg.
9990	Other	Exempt kg.
37.02	In section 4000, the words 'transparent or semi-transparent' are deleted	
38.19	In subsection 9910, the words 'and provided that the list of the goods has been approved by the Director before importation' are deleted	
84.35	Subsection 9930 is repealed	
84.60	Subsection 2000 is superseded by:	
2000	of the kind used for the production of goods falling under Chapter 64	Exempt kg.

In the following items, the release date of '1.5.75' is superseded by '1.4.76'

87.01.9922	87.01.9932	87.02.6022	87.02.6032
87.02.6041	87.02.6051	87.02.6062	87.02.6092
87.03.6010	87.03.6510	87.04.5051	02.01.1023

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 475/420.

Import liberalisation list amendments. The Israeli authorities have announced amendments to the Free Imports Order 1968 list. The following BN numbers (which had previously been banned for six months) have been reinstated on the liberalised list:

BN 11.02-2039	BN 17.04	BN 53.11
55.09	56.07	58.04-3000
64.01	64.02	64.03
64.04	70.14-4000	73.38-1010
85.06	85.12-2000	85.14
85.15-4012,4020,4035	89.01	92.11-9910, 9990
94.01	94.03	99.01
99.02	99.03	99.05
99.06		

BN 08.04-200 and 08.11-100 have been deleted from the Free Imports 1968 Order list.

British exporters with inquiries should specify the items in which they are interested. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 475/420.

Purchase tax amendments. The Israeli authorities have issued amendments to the Purchase Tax Order which affect the following items:

All types of chocolates and chocolate-coated articles and other sweets (107)

Motor vehicles including commercial vehicles (1507 and 1508)

The figures in brackets are Israeli purchase tax numbers. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 475/420.

Iran

Import regulations 1975/76. Details are now available of import regulations for the Iranian new year which began on 21 March (see *Trade and Industry*, 4 April 1975, page 26):

Tariff no.	Goods	Import conditions	Commercial benefit tax
ex 01/05	One-day chicks		exempt
ex 02/06	Dried beef		decreased from 50 to 25 rials per kg.
04/01	Cream		from 70 to 40 rials per kg.
ex 04/02	Milk		from 60 to 30 rials per kg.
	Powdered cream		from 60 to 40 rials per kg.
04/06	Honey	free	from 40 to 20 rials per kg.
08/01	Coconuts		14 rials per kg. eliminated
08/05	Walnuts	free	
09/10	Fumeric		4 rials per kg. eliminated
15/07	Olive oil		10 rials per kg. eliminated
16/03	Extract of meat	free	160 rials per kg. eliminated
19/03	Macaroni and spaghetti		from 30 to 10 rials per kg.
19/08	Biscuits		from 10 to 2 rials per kg. eliminated
ex 23/01	Livestock feed		from 30% to 25% *ad val.*
ex 32/09	Cellulose paints		from 600 to 300 rials per kg.
33/06	Eau de Cologne	free	from 2,000 to 1,000 rials per kg.
	Perfumes	free	50 rials per kg. eliminated
59/05	Fishing nets		from 800 rials to 400 rials per kg.
ex 60/03	Silk stockings	free	unchanged
	Wool socks	free	from 225% to 70% ad val.
70/13	Glassware		from 100 to 50 rials per kg.
ex 73/36	Gas stoves		from 20% to 10% *ad val.*
ex 83/01	Iron locks		from 40% to 10% *ad val.*
	Aluminium locks		from 40% to 30% *ad val.*
ex 83/02	Aluminium fittings		35% *ad val.* eliminated
84/15	Blood bank refrigerators		from 35% to 25% *ad val.*
	Electric refrigerators		from 70% to 60% *ad val.*
85/15	Television sets		from 60% to 40% *ad val.*
ex 92/11	Sound systems		eliminated
94/01	Chairs		eliminated
94/03	Other furniture		

British exporters with inquiries should specify the items in which they are interested. Inquiries: OTAR, ext. 420/475.

South Africa

Tariff changes. The following amendments were published in the South African *Government Gazette*, 9 May 1975:

R914 BN 92.12. Specific provision at the existing rate of duty of 5% (General) and 2% (M.F.N.), is made for magnetic disc packs for automatic data processing machines.

R915 Sales duty item 148.00. BN 92.12. Magnetic disc packs which were previously classified under tariff heading No. 84.55 will in future be classified under tariff heading No. 92.12. The packs were not liable to sales duty and are therefore now also being excluded from sales duty item 148.00/92.12.

INDUSTRIAL REBATES

R940 Item 311.01. BN 63.02. It is made clear that rags entered under rebate of duty in terms of item 311.01 may be used solely for the recovery of fibres.

The following amendment was published in the South African *Government Gazette*, 16 May 1975:

R960 BN 29.04, 29.13, 29.14, 29.15 and 38.19: The rates of duty on butyl alcohols amyl alcohols, acetone, ethyl methyl ketone, methyl isobutyl ketone, ethyl acetate, amyl acetate, butyl acetate, isobutyl acetate, phthalic anhydride, esters of phthalic acids and phthalic acid esters of mixed aliphatic alcohols are amended.

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 471/472/473/462.

Tyre protection chains: tariff application. Customs Tariff Application List 669, published in the South African *Government Gazette*, 23 May 1975, contains an application to the Board of Trade and Industries for increase in duty on tyre protection chains classifiable under tariff subheading 73.29.50.

British trade organisations thought to be interested in the application are being informed. Any British firm affected which wishes to make representations to the South African Board of Trade and

Us or them on costs.

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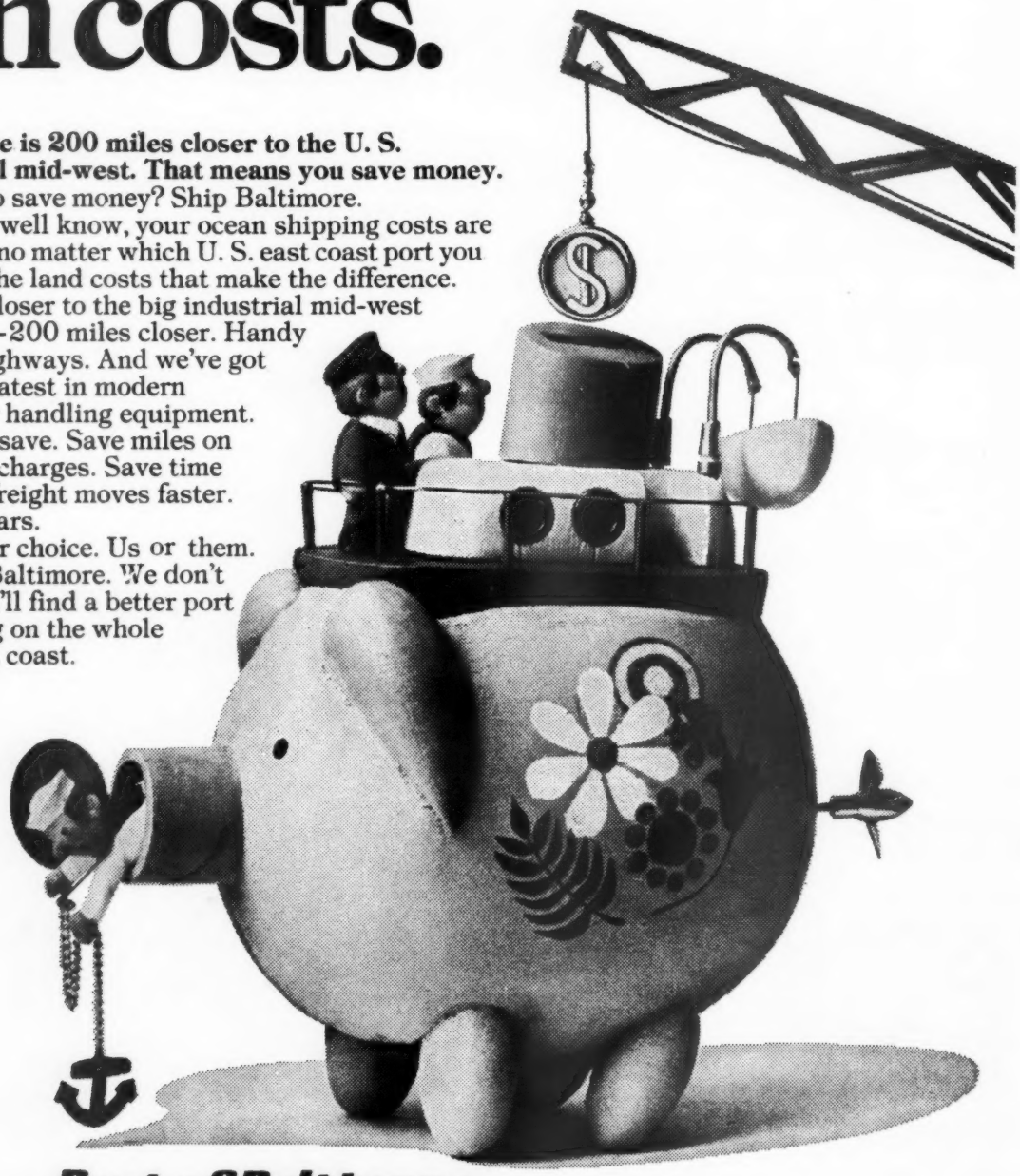


Port of Baltimore

Maryland Port Administration / 19 S. Charles St. / Baltimore, Maryland 21201

BALTIMORE: John F. Halloran, regional manager
19 S. Charles Street / Baltimore, Maryland 21201
(301) 383-5753 / Cable: MARPORT / Telex 710-234-1075.

BRUSSELS: David K. Tosic, manager
H. Frank Vonderach, assistant manager
Shell Building / 60 Rue Ravenstein / 1000 Brussels, Belgium
5-13.01.49 & 5-13.54.05 / Cable: MARPORT / Telex 26862.

LONDON: Kenneth L. Newton, manager
*Stanley G. Armstrong, assistant manager
Moor House, 119 London Wall / London, England EC2Y 5ET
01-638-8330 / Cable: BALTPORT / Telex 888711
*Birmingham and Northern England.

Industries and belongs to a trade organisation should, therefore, first contact its own trade association.

If any firm proposes to make independent representations to the South African authorities and requires further information concerning the application, it should address inquiries to CRE (tel: 01-215 5274).

Motor vehicles and components: Notice No. 320 published in *Government Gazette* No. 4709, 16 May 1975, states that the Board of Trade and Industries has been asked to inquire into and report upon:

a the effect of the present measures designed to encourage the local manufacture of motor vehicles and parts, and the level of local manufacture which has been attained in respect of passenger and commercial motor vehicles;

b the extent to which independent manufacturers of parts contribute to the present level of local content of motor vehicles, and the extent to which the measures ensure the optimum utilisation of available capacity by the manufacturers concerned; and

c the extent to which the development of the industry has been economically sound in the national interest; and, in the light of its findings, to make recommendations upon

1 the extent of local manufacture which should be aimed at in respect of the various categories of motor vehicles and parts thereof under present and foreseeable circumstances; and

2 the measures which should be applied to attain these objectives in a manner ensuring the sound development of the industry, regard being had to the economic utilisation of resources available to the entire South African economy.

Interested parties are invited to submit their representations in this regard to the Board of Trade and Industries, Private Bag X342, Pretoria, 0001, by 11 July 1975. Inquiries CRE tel. 01-215 5274

Bangladesh

Currency devaluation: The Bangladesh Government has devalued the Taka with effect from 17 May. The new rate will be Taka 30 = £1 (old rate was Taka 18.96 = £1), a devaluation of 58 per cent. Under the measure the Government has abolished the 'Wage Earners' scheme, which permitted the import of certain items into Bangladesh from the Foreign Exchange earnings of Bangladesh nationals working abroad. Also abolished is the payment by importers of import licence fees and exchange tax. Import Policy inquiries: OTAR 420/475, General inquiries: CRE tel 01-215 5278.

Malaysia

Petroleum and equipment for Malaysian Airlines: duty exemptions. The Malaysian *Government Gazette*, 10 April 1975, published the following announcements:

The Excise Duties (Exemption) (Amendment) Order 1975, exempts petroleum from excise duties if for use by aircraft owned and operated by the Malaysian Airline System Berhad. This Order applies only to the states of Malaysa.

The Customs Duties (Exemption) (Amendment) (No. 3) Order 1975, exempts from import duty, ground equipment; instructional and training aids; all goods, except intoxicating liquor, tobacco and cosmetics; and fuel and lubricants, for use by and in aircraft of Malaysian Airline System Berhad. This Order applies throughout the Federation.

Both Orders came into operation on 10 April 1975. Inquiries OTAR ext. 401/468/469.

Australia

Temporary protection. The Department of Manufacturing Industry in Australia has received requests for temporary protection against imports of the following.

Certain screws, nuts and bolts (tariff items 73.32.910; 73.32.940; 73.32.990; and 74.15.00). Ref. CRE 953/75.

Playing cards in packs (tariff item 97.04.100). Ref. CRE 954/75.

Fresh and frozen fish products. Ref. CRE 955/75.

Requests for temporary protection are received initially by the Department of Manufacturing Industry and, after examination, are submitted to the Special Minister of State for consideration. The Special Minister of State may refer the request to a Temporary Assistance Authority for inquiry and report. Any temporary protection which may be accorded on the recommendation of the Temporary Assistance Authority is in the nature of a holding action pending Government consideration of the general question of protection for the local industry following inquiry and report by the Industries Assistance Commission.

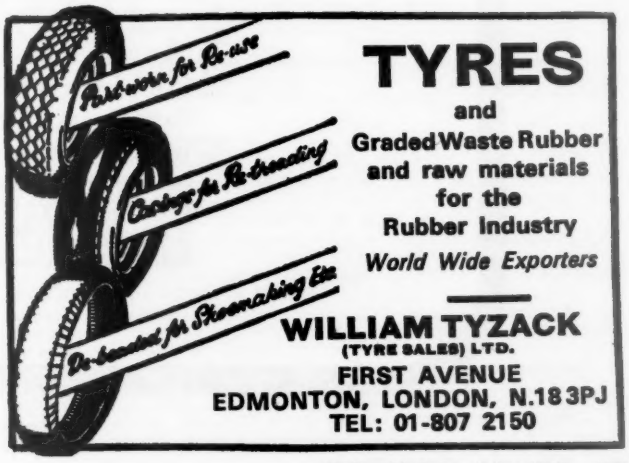
Exporters should note that the Australian Prime Minister has made it clear that should the need for urgent action emerge from these inquiries goods ordered overseas but not cleared for home consumption at the date of the announcement, will be subject to the terms of the action. Australian importers have been urged therefore to exercise caution in placing orders overseas and in entering into financial commitments on such orders, as special consideration may not be given to outstanding commitments should action be taken by the Government.

Evidence must be formally submitted at a public hearing, either by a nominated representative of the firm or trade association concerned, or through the Australian British Trade Association, 21 Tothill Street, London SW1 (tel. 01-799 7447), who will represent UK interests if authorised. The Association charges a fee for its services, the amount varying according to the work entailed in the preparation of a submission and whether or not the interested party is a member.

UK firms or trade associations intending to submit evidence should advise the Secretary, Industries Assistance Commission, PO Box 80, Canberra, ACT 2600, Australia, without delay through their accredited agent, indicating the goods with which they are concerned, and the request they anticipate submitting. Ref. CRE 953/75. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5319.

CRE Commercial Relations and Exports Divisions
Tel. Direct dialling (see end of each notice)

OTAR Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section
Tel. 01-248 5757 (extension at end of each notice)



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BARCLAYS International

Head Office: 54 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3AH.

Brazil

Duty changes. The Brazilian authorities have announced the following import duty changes:

Styrene monomer: revocation of exemption. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,296, published in the *Diario Oficial* 16 December 1974 revoked the duty exemption on styrene monomer, under BTN 29.01.35.00, which was granted under Resolution 1.839. The duty is now 50 per cent cif.

Agricultural chemicals: exemptions. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,298, published in the *Diario Oficial*, 17 December 1974, added the following chemicals to those exempted from duty under Resolution 2,259, when used for agricultural purposes:

28.44.12.00 Potassium thiocyanate, with a minimum purity of 98 per cent
28.46.16.00 Sodium borohydrate, with a minimum purity of 98 per cent
29.22.99.00 Beta chlorocetylamine hydrochlorate, with a minimum purity of 98 per cent
29.22.99.00 2-amino Hyazoline, with a minimum purity of 98 per cent

In addition this minimum concentration required for N-(2-methyl-4 chlorophenyl). N,'N' dimethyformamidine hydrochloride is reduced from 97 per cent to 95 per cent.

Polypropylene resin: restoration of duty. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,300, published in the *Diario Oficial*, 23 December 1974 inserted a clause restoring the original duty rate on polypropylene resin of heading 39.02.02.12. Polypropylene resin with reinforcements, coatings, with or without lubricating additives is now liable to 55 per cent import duty. The reduction conceded in Resolution 2,114 remains in force for all other types of polypropylene resins, their duty being reduced to 0 per cent.

Exemptions. Customs Policy Council 2,301 published in the *Diario Oficial*, 23 December 1974 exempted from import duty equipment, machinery, apparatus or instruments, not having a national similar, imported by the Companhia Estadual da Gas Guanabara state (CEG) or Companhia Municipal de Gas of Sao Paulo (COMGAS) when essential to the construction, expansion or protection of its facilities. The usual parts and components accompanying such equipment will be admitted free of duty, provided their value does not exceed 10 per cent of the value of the machinery.

High-density polyethylene: restoration of duty. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,303, published in the *Diario Oficial* restored the import duty on high-density polyethylene of heading 39.02.02.01. High-density polyethylene with reinforcements, coatings, with or without lubricating additives is now liable to 45 per cent import duty. The exemption granted in Resolution 1,876 remains in force for all other types of high density polyethylene.

Vanadium pentoxide: duty reduction. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,314, published in the *Diario Oficial*, 16 January 1975, reduced the import duty on vanadium pentoxide from 15 per cent to 10 per cent. The reduction will remain in force for a period of one year, until 16 January 1976.

Synthetic rubber and latex: duty exemption. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,315, published in the *Diario Oficial*, 16 January 1975, exempted from duty a quota of 53.197, 16 tonnes of synthetic rubber and latex, under heading 40.02. The quota is broken down as follows:

Heading	Goods	Tonnes (dry weight)
40.02.00.00	Synthetic rubber latex, pre-vulcanised synthetic rubber latex; synthetic rubber factice derived from oils:	
01.00	Synthetic rubber latex	
02	of polybutadiene-styrene-vinyl pyridine	2,102.20
99	Others	1,374.80
99.00	Others:	
02	of polyacryloritrile-butadiene	4,000.00
04	of polychlorobutadiene (or polychloroprene)	19,647.50
05	of alcoid polysulphite	233.20
06	of poly-isobutylene-isoprene	15,520.20
08	of polyethylene-polypropylene	8,315.22
99	Others	2,004.04
	Total	53,197.16

The resolution will remain in force for a period of one year, until 16 January 1976.

Various products. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,319, published in the *Diario Oficial*, 16 January 1975, amended the tariff takes for headings 39.01.00.00, 59.01.00.00, 39.02.00.00, 40.08.00.00 and 48.07.00.00 as follows:

Heading	Goods	Duty
39.01.04.99	Others	85%
	Ex Polyester film, not sensitised, of a thickness between 0.219 mm. and 2.242 mm. for typographical proofs, and of a thickness between 0.166 mm. and 0.188 mm. for photographic montage	10%
39.02.04.99	Others	85%
	Ex Laminated vinyl plastic with a coating of adhesive for fixing paper pigment to rotogravure cylinders	10%
40.08.99.00	Others	85%
	Ex Blankets of three to four layers of fabric covered with synthetic rubber for coating offset printing machines	10%
48.07.05.00	Paper and paperboard, waxed, oiled, paraffined or resinated	37%
	Ex Oil-coated, pulp-dyed paper for covering blankets, rubber pads and plates for use on offset printing machines, of uniform thickness	10%

Polypropylene resin and film: duty reduction. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,322 published in the *Diario Oficial*, 16 January 1975 reduced the import duty on polypropylene resin and film, of a nominal thickness of 0.026 mm., suitable for electrical condensers, under heading 39.02.04.99, from 85 per cent to 25 per cent. This concession will have a period of validity of one year from 16 January 1975.

Agricultural machinery: duty exemptions. Customs Council Resolution 2,323, published in the *Diario Oficial*, 16 January 1975, exempted from import duty, under the provisions of Resolution 1,804, vibrating harvester and bean strippers, with internal combustion engine incorporated, for hand use, suitable for coffee-harvesting, under heading 84.25.99.00. Resolution 1.804 exempted from import duty, a range of agricultural equipment not having a national similar, when intended for mechanising agriculture and imported directly by the user or consigned directly to him.

Bicalcium orthophosphate: duty exemptions. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,363, published in the *Diario Oficial*, 6 March 1975, exempted from import duty bicalcium orthophosphate with a maximum content of one part of fluor for every 100 parts of phosphorus, under heading 28.40.28.00. The exemption will have a period of validity of one year, until 6 March 1976.

Raw zinc: duty reductions. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,364, published in the *Diario Oficial*, 11 March 1975, made the following amendments to the import duties on raw zinc of headings 79.01.01.00 and 79.02.00.00:

a Reduction from 30 per cent to 7 per cent for zinc of any type or purity, other than 'Special High Grade' – 99.99 per cent pure, when the importers can prove that they have bought 1 tonne of domestically produced zinc for every tonne of imported zinc.
b Reduction from 30 per cent to 7 per cent for a quota of 16,700 tonnes of 'Special High Grade" zinc 99.99 per cent to be distributed by CACEX for the consumers own use if they are able to show that they are able to use them.

These concessions will have a period of validity of one year, until 11 March 1976.

Jute: duty exemption. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,366, published in the *Diario Oficial*, 11 March 1975, granted exemption from import duty to a quota of 6,000 tonnes of jute (other than Kenaf and Thailand jute) under heading 57.03.01.00. The concession will have a period of validity of one year until 11 March 1976.

Tyres: duty exemption. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,368, published in the *Diario Oficial*, 13 March 1975, reduced the import duty on tyres, inner tubes and tyre flaps of the following sizes from 85 per cent to 0 per cent when imported directly by motor manufacturers:

Heading	Goods
40.11.01.02	Tyres for trucks, buses and pick-ups
	Ex Tyres for trucks, buses and pick-ups of sizes: 9.00 × 20; 10.00 × 20; 11.00 × 20 and 11.00 × 22.
40.11.02.00	Inner tubes
	Ex Inner tubes of sizes: 9.00 × 20; 10.00 × 20; 11.00 × 20 and 11.00 × 22
40.11.03.00	Tyre flaps
	Ex Tyre flaps of sizes: 9.00 × 20; 11.00 × 20; 11.00 × 20 and 11.00 × 22

Grain wheat: duty exemption. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,369 published in the *Diario Oficial*, 13 March 1975, gave exemption from import duty for a quota of 2,000 tonnes of grain wheat, under BN heading 10.01.00.00. The import of this wheat will be controlled directly by the Foreign Trade Department (CACEX) of the Bank of Brazil.

Tyres and inner tubes: duty reductions. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,370, 18 March 1975, reduced until 31 December 1975 the import duty on tyres and inner tubes of the following sizes from 85 per cent to nil.

Heading	Goods	Duty
40.11.01.04	Tyres for agricultural tractors and machines	85%
	Ex Tyres of the following sizes: 750-16; 800-18; B-24 or 8.3/8; 12-38 or 13.6/12-38; 13-24 or 14.9/13-24; 13-24-A; 13-28 or 14.9/13-28-A; 14-30 or 169/14-30; 15-30 or 18.4/15-30-A; 15-34 or 18.4/15-34; 15-34-A; 26 or 23.1/18-26 and 18-26-A	0%
40.11.02.00	Inner tubes	85%
	Ex Inner tubes of the following sizes: 750-16; 800-18; 8-24 or 8.3/8-24; 12-38 or 13.6/12-38; 13-24 or 14.9/13-24; 13.24.A; 13.28 or 14.9/13-28; 13-28; 13-28-A; 14 or 16.9/14-30; 15-30 or 18.4/15-38; 15-30-A; 15-34 or 18.4/15-34; 15-34-A; 18-26 or 23.1/18-26 and 18-26-A	0%

These concessions apply only to goods imported by motor manufacturers.

Refractory construction materials: duty reductions. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,374, published in the *Diario Oficial*, 8 April 1975, reduced the import duty on refractory bricks, blocks and other similar construction materials, not fused, having a content of more than 25 per cent zircon oxide, under tariff heading 69.02.99.00, from 145 per cent to 45 per cent.

Manganese dioxide: duty increased. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,376, published in the *Diario Oficial*, 8 April 1975, increased the import duty on manganese dioxide heading 28.22.03.00, from 17 per cent to 45 per cent. The increase will have a period of validity of one year, until 8 April 1976.

Bricks and paving tiles, etc.: duty reductions. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,377, published in the *Diario Oficial*, 9 April 1975, reduced the duty on electrically fused bricks, paving tiles and the like, of heading 68.16.03.00 from 120 per cent to 20 per cent.

Raw cobalt: duty reduction. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,375, published in the *Diario Oficial*, 8 April 1975, reduced the import duty rate on raw cobalt of heading 81.04.08.01, from 115 per cent to 15 per cent.

Musical instruments: duty reduction. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,382, published in the *Diario Oficial*, 9 April 1975, reduced the import duty on the following musical instruments from 55 per cent to 25 per cent:

92.01.02.00	Harps
92.02.06.00	Cello and doublebass
92.02.11.00	Violin
92.02.99.00	Viola
92.05.02.00	Ex Trumpets having an automatic tuning compensation system
92.05.03.00	Ex Boehm system clarinets
92.05.04.00	Ex Tube (double bass saxhorn) having an automatic tuning compensation system
92.05.06.00	Bassoon
92.05.09.00	Oboe
92.05.13.00	Bass trombone
92.05.99.00	Cor anglais, contra-bassoon, French-horn, having rotary valves

This concession will remain in force for one year, until 9 April 1976.

Carbon bisulphide: duty – exemption revoked. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,384, published in the *Diario Oficial*, 26 March 1973, revoked the exemption granted under resolution 2,285, to carbon bisulphide under heading 28.15.03.00. The original duty of 30 per cent is, therefore, restored.

Neutral sodium carbonate: exemption. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,393, published in the *Dario Oficial*, 4 April 1975, granted exemption from customs duty to neutral sodium carbonate, under tariff heading 28.42.17.00.

Alcohols: duty increase. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,396, published in the *Diario Oficial*, 9 April 1975, increased the import duty on dealic alchohol of heading 29.04.06.00, nonilic alcohol of heading 29.04.15.00, octilic acid of heading 29.04.16.00 and iso-octilic acid of 29.04.25.00 from 30 per cent to 60 per cent. The increase will have a period of validity of one year, until 9 April 1975.

European Community

The Community's Business Co-operation Centre

Looking for a business partner elsewhere in the Community? . . . You might find him here

The Commission of the European Communities set up the Business Co-operation Centre last year to encourage co-operation between firms in different Member States wishing to increase competitiveness and respond to the opportunities opened up by access to the Community's markets. Co-operation is defined as the pooling of one or more activities of the partner firms; for example, in research and development, supplies, production, marketing and sales and management.

A firm seeking the Centre's help will be asked to provide certain information about itself, and to define exactly what type of partner and what type of co-operation it wants. All the information supplied, and any inquiries received, are treated as strictly confidential, and no names are revealed without the agreement of all parties. The Centre will search its files for a suitable partner, and, if the application cannot be matched with an offer already registered, will, if the firm agrees, circulate a summary of the firm's requirements, with no names mentioned, to the 'correspondents' which it has in every country of the Community.

It is as one of the Centre's correspondents in this country that we reproduce the latest batch of requests for co-operation below. Readers wishing to obtain further information should write direct to the Centre at the following address, quoting the reference number of the request[s] in which they are interested: Business Co-operation Centre, rue Archimede 17, B-1040 Brussels. The Centre makes no charge for its services.

Reference BRE/3269/442
French limited company manufacturing luggage items, brief cases and small leather goods, with turnover of FF80 million (20 per cent to export) and 1,000 employees, seeks dynamic British and German partners of equivalent turnover with national, and if possible, international coverage for co-operation in research (use of other raw materials, new assembly techniques, improvement in quality/price ratios, new styles. Financial links excluded.
Languages: French, English, German.

Reference BRE/3107/48
Italian private company operating in the footwear sector and manufacturing men's and boys' shoes, with a turnover of Lire 3,400 million and 350 employees, seeks a British, French or German partner in the same branch and size, specialising mainly in complementary lines of manufacture, eg ladies' and children's shoes. The co-operation could take the form of:

a exchange of marketing networks;
b sales in the partner's country of certain types of shoes manufactured by the Italian firm, at the same time receiving the exclusive right to manufacture others for which the Italian possesses the registered designs.

Languages: Italian, French, English.

Reference BRE/2892/483
Italian company operating in the field of packaging which produces traditional packing (in cardboard and in wood) in expanded polystyrene, and moreover patented 'pallets' in expanded polystyrene, with a turnover of Lire 2,000 million and 150 employees, seeks a UK partner of similar size in the same branch (or at least in plastic materials). The co-operation should specifically concern the pallet for which a licence could be granted by the Italian firm for a fee, or for a participation in the partner's sales. A joint research and development venture into new products and new uses of the patent would be considered.
Languages: Italian, French, English.

Reference BRE/3140/41
Italian family business producing tinned foods, in particular sardines, in tinplate also in aluminium 'easy opening' cans, with a turnover of Lire 1,500 million and 100 employees, seeks a partner of similar size and some branch as producer or distributor in Germany, France or the United Kingdom. The co-operation could consist of:

a exchange of sales networks;
b joint buying of fish products;
c joint penetration of markets outside Europe.

Languages: Italian, English, French and German.

Reference BRE/3206/50
Co-operative group at present consisting of 17 firms in the building industry, active throughout West Germany and specialising in pre-fabricated building units (also occupation ready if required) with solid concrete elements for single or multi-family houses, residential centres, kindergartens and homes for the elderly, with a group turnover of approximately DM115 million (as at June 1974) and approximately 3,500 employees, seeks contacts with construction firms or co-operative groups in other EEC countries specialising in pre-cast building for the purpose of:

a Exchange of technical, marketing and organisational know-how;
b Joining the existing German co-operation group by means of financial participation in the central administrative company's share capital and in cost of research and system development.
c Later joint operations in Third countries.

Languages: German, English.

Reference BRE/2226/322
German engineering company, member of European international group, engaged in the manufacture of metal cutting machine tools and marine products (complete power systems up to 200 DIN HP), with well-developed international distribution network; further production unit engaged in basic maintenance, parts fabrication and contract servicing with own machine shops; turnover approximately DM50 million and around 250 employees, seeks partner in France, Belgium, Holland, Denmark or United Kingdom, about same size or smaller, with technically flowless production, with view to collaboration in following fields:

a Machine tool production eg manufacture by partner of machines to existing designs, joint development work and distribution of non-competing products on joint or possibly reciprocal basis;
b Basic maintenance, parts fabrication and contract servicing with partners providing services on reciprocal basis.

Languages: German, French, English.

Chinese Ambassador for Brussels

During his visit to Peking from 4 to 10 May, the Chinese Government officially informed Sir Christopher Soames, Vice-President of the EEC Commission for External Affairs, that China would appoint an ambassador to the Community.

The appointment is seen as the starting point for a new relationship between China and the Community, preparing the way for exploratory talks leading to an agreement of economic co-operation. At the moment the Community is China's second biggest trading partner, after Japan. EEC exports to China rose from £150 million in 1972 to £330 million in 1974, while imports from China grew from £215 million to £340 million during the same period.

Whilst in Peking, Sir Christopher saw the Chinese Prime Minister Chou en-lai, Foreign Minister Ch'iao Kuan-hua and had several meetings with the Foreign Trade Minister, Li Ch'iang. He told members of the Chinese government that the Commission welcomed the enhanced relations with China and looked forward to a closer and more fruitful relationship.

EIB loan for Glasgow bottling plant

A 10-year loan of £12 million at an interest rate of 9½ per cent has been granted to the Distillers Company Ltd., by the European Investment Bank.

The loan will be used to help finance a new whisky blending and bottling plant at Shieldhall, Glasgow.

Publications on the European Communities

Listed below are official publications on European Communities' matters issued during the period 15 April-16 May 1975. All can be obtained from Her Majesty's Stationery Office. Orders, quoting the Standard Book Number (which in the list is given in brackets after each title), should be sent to HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH. The price inclusive of postage is given in parenthesis at the end of each reference.

1 Parliamentary Publications

Cmnd. 5957 European Communities. Treaty Series No. 5 (1975). Decisions of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community, meeting in Council, opening, allocating and providing for the administration of Tariff Quotas and opening Tariff Preferences for certain Steel Products originating in Developing Countries. Brussels, 18 December 1973 (For the purposes of the entry into operation of the European Communities (Definition of Treaties) Order 1974 (S.I. No. 1263) the Decisions are regarded as having entered into force for the United Kingdom on 25 July 1974). [0 10 159570 0]. 16 pp. 18p (23½p).

Cmnd. 5958 European Communities No. 32 (1975). Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters rectifying Article 3 of Protocol No. 1 to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Kingdom of Norway of 14 May 1973. Brussels, 21 December 1973. (The Exchange of Letters entered into force on 21 December 1973) [0 10 159570 0]. 16 pp. 18p (23½p).

Cmnd. 5959 European Communities. Treaty Series No. 53 (1975). Decision of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community, meeting within the Council, opening Tariff Preferences for Products covered by that Community and originating in Finland. Brussels, 10 December 1973. (For the purposes of the entry into operation of the European Communities (Definition of Treaties) Order 1974 (S.I. No. 1263) the Decision is regarded as having entered into force for the United Kingdom on 25 July 1974). [0 10 159590 5]. 4 pp. 8p (13½p).

Cmnd. 5960 Finland. Treaty Series No. 54 (1975). Agreement between the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community, of the one part, and the Republic of Finland, of the other part (with Final Act). Brussels, 5 October 1973 and related Exchange of Letters. (The Agreement entered into force on 1 January 1975). The Agreement was previously published as Miscellaneous No. 37 (1973), Cmnd. 5472. [0 10 159600 6]. 26 pp. 26p (31½p).

Cmnd. 5961 Norway. Treaty Series No. 55 (1975). Agreement between the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community, of the one part, and the Kingdom of Norway, of the other part (with Final Act). Brussels, 14 May 1973. (The Agreement entered into force on 1 January 1975). The Agreement was previously published as Miscellaneous No. 16 (1973), Cmnd. 5347. [0 10 159610 3]. 20 pp. 20p (25½p).

House of Lords Bill (179). Referendum Bill. [0 10 041795 7]. 8 pp. 12p (17½p).

House of Lords Bill (179a). Referendum Bill. Amendments to be moved in Committee. [0 10 044515 2]. 2 pp. 6p (11½p).

House of Lords Bill (179b). Referendum Bill. Amendments to be moved in Committee. [0 10 044525 X]. 2 pp. 6p (11½p).

House of Lords Bill (192). Referendum Bill. [As amended in Committee]. [0 10 041925 9]. 6 pp. 18p (23½p).

House of Commons Bill (145). Referendum Bill [As amended in Committee). [0 10 031455 4]. 8 pp. 12p (17½p).

Cmnd. 5991 European Communities No. 43 (1975). Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters amending certain provisions of Protocols 1, 6, 7 and 8 of the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Portuguese Republic of 22 July 1972. Brussels, 18 December 1973. (The Exchange of Letters entered into force on 9 March 1974). [0 10 159910 2]. 8 pp. 12p (17½p).

2 Publications sold but not published by HMSO

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Bulletin of the European Communities. No. 2, 1975 (8th year). [0 11 934622 0]. 128 pp. 45p (58p).

Graphs and Notes on the Economic Situation in the Community: 2. 1975. [0 11 934615 X]. 16 pp. 65p (73p).

STATISTICAL OFFICE OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Iron and Steel. Statistical Bulletin. No. 1, 1975. [0 11 934598 6]. 308 pp. £3.60 (£3.76).

General Statistics. Monthly Bulletin. No. 2, 1975. [0 11 934600 1]. 196 pp. £1.70 (£1.94).

Foreign Trade. Monthly Statistics. No. 2, 1975. [0 11 934597 8]. 108 pp. £1.70 (£1.84).

Industrial Statistics. Quarterly. No. 1-2, 1974. [0 11 934623 0]. £1.04 (£1.22).

National Accounts – ESA. Yearbook 1973. [0 11 934630 3]. 424 pp. £2.20 (£2.66).

OTHERS

International Customs Tariffs Bureau: International Customs Journal: European Economic Community (E.E.C.) (5th Edition). February 1975. Year 1974-1975. [0 11 982045 5]. 370 pp. 75½p (99½p).

GSP tariff quotas for imports of certain footwear – amendment

Trade and Industry, 20 February, 14 March and 18 April gave details of GSP tariff quotas exhausted and/or Community 'butoirs' reached (resulting in the restoration of normal duties). In the case of the two items mentioned below the United Kingdom's shares of the tariff quotas as they appeared in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* L329, 9 December 1974, page 54, were understated. (The necessary corrigendum to Council Regulation (EEC) No. 3052/74 of 2 December 1974 has been published in the *Official Journal of the Communities* L121, 14 May 1975, page 23.) The United Kingdom's shares therefore will not have been exhausted on the dates given in *Trade and Industry*. However, as the Community butoirs were reached and duties consequently re-imposed throughout the Community on imports of such goods from South Korea and Hong Kong on the dates set out below, imports from those particular sources would not qualify for GSP tariff quota relief on entry into the UK on and from such dates even if it turns out that the overall (amended) UK tariff quota shares were then unexhausted by further claims (see below).

Tariff heading	Description of goods	Customs quota reference	Date UK quota share exhausted	Community butoir reached – duty to be reimposed	
				On date	On goods from
64.01	Footwear with outer soles and uppers of leather or artificial plastic material	4479	14.1.75	18.2.75	South Korea Hong Kong
64.02.B	Footwear with outer soles of leather or composition leather etc – Other	4258	16.1.75	24.2.75 14.3.75	South Korea Hong Kong

Goods as described above may therefore be eligible for tariff quota relief if they were imported from GSP sources and entered with HM Customs for home-use on and after 14 January 1975 in the case of 64.01 and on and after 16 January 1975 in the case of 64.02B. However, as explained above, goods of 64.01 imported from South Korea or Hong Kong cannot qualify if entered on or after 18 February 1975, and goods of 64.02B cannot qualify if imported from South Korea and entered on or after 24 February 1975 or if imported from Hong Kong and entered on or after 14 March 1975.

Traders whose claims were rejected as being too late and those who wish to claim in respect of importations entered subsequent to the announcements of exhaustions of UK shares should apply to HM Customs for their goods to be considered for tariff quota relief.

Claims may now be made for goods entered up to 31 March 1975 and should give the following details:

Port (place) of importation	Ship (aircraft) and date, or warehouse	Entry no. and date	Quota serial no.	Value of goods	Country of origin

This information should be sent to HM Customs and Excise, Central Tariff Quota Unit, Room 260, King's Beam House, Mark Lane, London EC3 7HE by 31 July 1975. If the necessary GSP certificate of origin Form A was not submitted with the entry it must be attached to the claim.

The additional amounts of tariff quota relief available will be allocated to importers in the order in which the entries were presented by them to Customs.

Any inquiries about this notice (other than in connection with details of claims as set out above) should be made to General Division 2, Department of Trade, Room 333, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ.

New EC Legislation

Applications for copies of the *Official Journal of the European Communities* containing the legislation referred to should be made to HMSO and not to the inquiry points given in the notices.

The legislation listed below has been published in the 'Official Journal of the European Communities' as indicated against each item. The 'Official Journal' is now published in English and copies should be obtained from HMSO. Information about the items listed, in so far as other Member States' requirements are concerned, is available to British exporters from Department of Trade, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757, ext. 4174/482/408).

COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY. The texts of the following Regulations and Directive which affect the various agricultural sectors in the EEC have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

Animal feedingstuffs. Directive 75/296/EEC amending Directive 70/524/EEC concerning additives in feedingstuffs. (*Official Journal* L124, 15 May 1975)

Cattle, beef and veal. Regulation (EEC) 1261/75 amending

Regulation (EEC) 2150/73 on the calculation of the special import price for adult bovine animals. (*Official Journal* L126, 17 May 1975)

Fruit and vegetables. Regulation (EEC) 1262/75 fixing for the 1975 marketing year the reference prices for cherries. (*Official Journal* L126, 17 May 1975)

Oils, fats and oilseeds. Regulation (EEC) 1279/75 amending Regulation (EEC) 205/73 on communications between Member States and the Commission concerning oils and fats. (*Official Journal* L131, 22 May 1975)

Regulation (EEC) 1280/75 amending Regulation (EEC) 1204/72 laying down detailed rules for the application of the subsidy system for oilseeds. (*Official Journal* L131, 22 May 1975)

Cereals. Regulation (EEC) 1281/75 on the advance fixing of the export refund on cereals and on certain products processed from cereals. (*Official Journal* L131, 22 May 1975)

COMMON COMMERCIAL POLICY. Imports. The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L124, 15 May 1975 contains the text of Regulation (EEC) 1212/75 extending to other imports the Annex to Regulation (EEC) 109/70 establishing common rules for imports from state-trading countries.

Exports. The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L131, 22 May 1975 contains the text of Regulation (EEC) 1275/75 deleting certain products covered by the undermentioned tariff headings in the Common Customs Tariff from the Annex to Regulation (EEC) 2603/69 establishing common rules for exports

06.01	07.05	09.01	12.03	21.02

Customs regulations. The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L127, 17 May 1975, contains the text of Regulation (EEC) 1214/75 amending Regulation (EEC) 1769/68 on air transport costs to be included in the value for customs purposes.

Trade in fresh meat, bovine animals and swine. Corrigenda. The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L120, 12 May 1975, contains the following corrections to the texts of a number of Directives concerning health problems affecting intra community trade in fresh meat, bovine animals and swine, which appear in the Special Editions of the *Official Journal of the European Communities* published in November 1972.

Special edition	Page	Corrigenda
		Corrigendum to Council Directive No. 64/432/EEC of 26 June 1964 on health problems affecting intra-Community trade in bovine animals and swine
1963-64	164	(*Official Journal of the European Communities*, No. 121 of 29 July 1964) Page 172, Annex B (17) second subparagraph, last two lines: delete: 'of agglutination'. Page 173, Annex C (3) last line: for: '(i.e. Serum X ± 80 IU/ml).' read: '(i.e. Serum X = 80 IU/ml).'.
		Corrigendum to Council Directive No. 64/433/EEC of 26 June 1964 on health problems affecting intra-Community trade in fresh meat
1963-64	185	(*Official Journal of the European Communities*, No. 121 of 29 July 1964) Page 187, Article 3 (3) (c), second line: for: 'cysterci' read: 'cysticerci'. Page 189, Annex I, Chapter I, (1) (i), third line: for: 'disposable hand towels' read: 'hand towels which can be used only once'. Page 190, Annex I, Chapter I, (1) (u): for: 'later handling' read: 'further handling'. Page 190, Annex I, Chapter 1, (1) (w), first line: for: 'paunch tanks'. read: 'containers'. Page 190, Annex I, Chapter I, (1) (x): for: '(x) a place specially equipped for dung: read: '(x) a special section for manure: Page 191, Annex I, Chapter III, (7) (b): for: 'farmyard animals' read: 'poultry'. Page 191, Annex I, Chapter III, (3) (c), last line: for: 'diseased germs.' read: 'disease causing germs. Page 191, Annex I, Chapter III, (6): for: 'health' read: 'wholesomeness'.
		Page 193, Annex I, Chapter VI, (25) (c), last line: for: 'last third,' read: 'posterior third,'. Page 193, Annex I, Chapter VI, (25), last line: for: 'must only be carried out in case of doubt.' read: 'is necessary only in case of doubt.'. Page 194, Annex I, Chapter VI, (26) (A) (a), first line and (b), first line: for: 'at the level' read: 'which must include examination'. Page 197, Annex II (IV) (b), first line: for: 'have passed' read: 'have been passed'.
		Corrigendum to Council Directive No. 66/601/EEC of 25 October 1966 amending the Council Directive of 26 June 1964 on health problems affecting intra-Community trade in fresh meat
1965-66	244	(*Official Journal of the European Communities*, No. 192 of 27 October 1966) Page 245, Article 7 (a), third and fourth line: for: 'slaughter rooms' and 'slaughter room' respectively read: 'slaughter premises'.
		Corrigendum to Council Directive No. 69/349/EEC of 6 October 1969 amending the Directive of 26 June 1964 on health problems affecting intra-Community trade in fresh meat
1969 (II)	431	(*Official Journal of the European Communities*, No. L256 of 11 October 1969) Page 434, Article 8 (b) and (c). Page 435, Article 9, new text of Annex I, Chapter II, (n) and (o). Page 436, Article 10 (c), new text of Annex I, Chapter III, (7): for: 'drinking water' read: 'potable water'. for: 'non-drinking water' read: 'non-potable water'. Page 434, Article 8 (d), sixth line. Page 435, Article 9, new text of Annex I, Chapter II, (f) sixth line and (q) eighth line: for: 'disposable hand towels' read: 'hand towels which can be used only once'. Page 434, Article 8 (c) third line. Page 435, Article 9, new text of Annex I, Chapter II, (s) first line: for: 'proper equipment' read: 'appropriate arrangements'. Page 437, Article 14, new text of Annex I, Chapter VII (34), second subparagraph, lines 3, 4, 5 and 11: for: 'slaughter room' read: 'slaughter premises'. Page 437, Article 14, new text of Annex I, Chapter VII, (34), third subparagraph, last line: for: 'building' read: 'room'.
		Corrigendum to Council Directive No. 71/285/EEC of 19 July 1971 amending the Directive of 26 June 1964 on animal health problems affecting intra-Community trade in bovine animals and swine
1971 (II)	649	(*Official Journal of the European Communities*, No. L179 of 9 August 1971) Page 652, Article 7, new text of Article 9 (1) (b), third line: for: 'contagious animal disease,' read: 'contagious or infectious animal disease,'.

EEC tariff quotas 1975 – exhaustions

The following United Kingdom quotas for imports of paper and board and printed products from individual EFTA countries and Finland (see *Trade and Industry*, 28 November 1974) have been exhausted:

UK tariff heading	Item	Country of origin	HM Customs serial no. (Part 11 of the UK tariff)
48.16	Boxes, bags and other packing containers of paper or paper board	Sweden	2842
ex 48.01EIIb)	Paper and paper board (including cellulose wadding) machine-made in rolls or sheets: Other – Bible paper (India paper), copying tissue, etc.	Austria	2052

Inquiries about current tariff quota balances may be made to HM Customs, Central Tariff Quota Registration Unit, King's Beam House, Mark Lane, London EC3R 7HE, tel. 01-626 1515, ext. 2570.

Statistics

The economy: selected indicators

Series expressed as index numbers and seasonally adjusted except where shown otherwise

	Gross domestic product (average estimate)	Consumers' expenditure	Fixed capital expenditure			Changes in stocks				Balance of payments		
			Total	of which: Manufacturing industry	of which: Distributive and service industries	Total	of which: Manufacturing industry	of which: Wholesalers	of which: Retailers	Current balance	Visible balance	Invisible balance
	at 1970 prices		at 1970 prices			at 1970 prices				at current prices		
Base of index	1970	1970	1970	1970	1970							
£m in base year		31,387	9 223	2,130	2,089	series in £ million				series in £ million		
1970	100	100	100	100	100	438	324	68	−23	698	−11	709
1971	101	103	100	94	103	111	−126	52	−4	1,052	273	778
1972	104	109	106	85	116	−54	−203	48	3	82	−683	765
1973	110	114	110	90	121	696	374	32	242	−1,117	−2,301	1,184
1974	109	114	108	100	111	265	435	34	−124	−3,828	−5,259	1,431
1972 2nd qtr.	104	108	106	84	115	−31	−106	1	38	123	−67	190
3rd qtr.	104	110	106	82	116	−7	−42	6	−13	−109	−284	175
4th qtr.	107	111	108	83	123	18	7	24	−6	−17	−209	192
1973 1st qtr.	110	115	112	89	127	277	146	11	32	−184	−354	170
2nd qtr.	109	112	107	86	113	188	61	−9	163	−210	−401	191
3rd qtr.	110	114	111	91	120	100	68	6	22	−230	−569	339
4th qtr.	110	114	111	94	125	131	99	24	25	−493	−977	484
1974 1st qtr.	106	113	112	99	111	−235	−100	8	−73	−971	−1,279	308
2nd qtr.	110	112	105	99	107	209	138	42	11	−985	−1,316	331
3rd qtr.	112	114	106	99	115	257	299	−27	−28	−797	−1,210	413
4th qtr.	110	116	107	102	112	34	+99	10	−34	−1,075	−1,454	379
1975 1st qtr.		116								−323	−683	360
% change last 2 qtrs. on prev. 2 qtrs.	+3.0	+2.7	−1.8	+1.5	+4.1							
on a year earlier	+1.3	+2.2	−4.1	+8.6	−7.3							

	Index of industrial production		Personal expenditure		Prices and costs					Labour			Trade§	
	Total all industries	Total manufacturing industries	Retail sales	Cars: new registrations	Index of retail prices: Index‡	Index of retail prices: % increase on a year earlier	Index of wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: basic materials and fuel used‡	Index of wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: manufactured products: home sales‡	Basic hourly wage rates of manual workers (all industries and services)‡	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students: mid-month count	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students: % of total employees	Unfilled vacancies for adults: mid-month count	Exports	Imports
			monthly averages										totals	
Base of index	1970	1970	1971		Jan. 1974		1970	1970	31 July 1972				Series in	
£m in base year			15,895	thousands						thousands		thousands	£ million	
1971	100.4	99.6	100.0	108.5	153.4†	9.4	104.6	109.0	88.9	737	3.2	129	8,801	8,528
1972	102.4	102.0	105.8	138.6	164.3†	7.1	109.2	114.8	101.4	816	3.6	145	9,147	9,830
1973	109.9	110.5	110.7	137.3	179.4†	9.2	144.5	123.2*	115.5	581	2.6	304	11,512	13,813
1974	106.4	107.9	109.9	102.7	108.5	16.0	215.3	152.0	138.5	572+	2.5+	298+	15,589	20,848
1973 3rd qtr.	110.7	111.5	110.6	143	180.2†	9.2	150.9	124.2	118.5	555	2.4	334	2,991	3,560
4th qtr.	109.5	110.5	112.0	119	186.8†	10.3	167.6	129.1	121.0	494	2.2	361	3,048	4,025
1974 1st qtr.	103.5	105.7	109.8	103	101.4	12.9	212.5	138.3	125.0	546	2.4	286	3,500	4,779
2nd qtr.	107.8	109.3	107.3	104	107.5	15.8	213.7	148.9	132.2	552	2.4	311	3,900	5,216
3rd qtr.	108.6	110.2	111.0	109	110.2	17.0	212.9	156.1	143.9	592	2.7	306	4,161	5,371
4th qtr.	105.4	106.2	111.6	96	115.1	18.2	222.1	164.9	153.5	..	..	..	4,029	5,482
1975 1st qtr.	105.0	106.4	111.6	106	122.0	20.3	220.9 p	176.0 p	163.2	701	3.1	..	4,559	5,242
1974 July	109.2	110.7	109.2	106	109.7	17.1	212.3	153.5	139.8	576	2.5	317	1,337	1,769
Aug.	109.1	111.2	111.4	102	109.8	16.9	213.7	156.1	145.5	597	2.6	301	1,378	1,787
Sept.	107.6	108.8	112.2	118	111.0	17.1	212.8	158.6	146.3	603	2.7	301	1,446	1,816
Oct.	107.0	107.5	111.4	102	113.2	17.1	220.1	162.2	148.7	607	2.7	294	1,347	1,841
Nov.	106.6	107.7	112.8	98	115.2	18.3	223.8	164.8	153.9	613	2.7	273	1,296	1,896
Dec.	102.8	103.5	110.8	87	116.9	19.1	222.5	167.6	157.9	..	..	..	1,386	1,745
1975 Jan.	104.9	106.3	113.0	109	119.9	19.9	222.1	173.0	159.7	678 e	3.0	..	1,562	1,837
Feb.	105.5	107.3	112.3	113	121.9	19.9	218.8	175.9	161.7	705	3.1	192	1,456	1,746
Mar.	104.6	105.1	109.4	97	124.3	21.2	221.8 p	179.0 p	168.3	722	3.2	186	1,540	1,658
Apr.			117½	89 p	129.1	21.7	223.0 p	182.0 p	168.6	760	3.3	173	1,366 p	1,655 p
May										817	3.6	156		
% change latest 3 months on prev. 3 months	−0.4	+0.1	+0.8	+1.7	+6.6		−0.7	+6.2	+5.7	..		..	+3	−7½
on a year earlier	+1.5	+0.7	+3.4	−4.2	+20.9		+3.1	+25.7	+31.5	+40.0		−42.0	+17½	+1

(‡) Not seasonally adjusted. (§) On a balance of payments basis. * After April 1973, affected by changes due to VAT. † Base of index Jan. 1962 = 100.
+ Average of 11 months. e Figure is estimate.

Deliveries of man-made fibres in the first quarter 1975

Total deliveries of man-made fibres in the first quarter of 1975 were 26 per cent less than in the first quarter of 1974. Deliveries of continuous filament yarns to the home trade were 14 per cent less than in the first quarter of 1974, while deliveries of staple fibre were 24 per cent less.

Symbols used in all statistical tables

.. not available
— nil or less than half the final digit shown
p provisional
r revised
* five week period
ø fifty-three week period

Deliveries of staple fibre (*a*)

Thousand metric tons

	Total	Home					Exports (*b*)
		Total	Cotton spinning	Wool spinning	Flax spinning	Other systems and sundries	
1968	282.4	173.1	52.3	58.2	26.3	36.3	109.3
1969	299.3	169.2	51.1	51.5	28.0	38.6	130.1
1970	329.4	191.4	57.6	57.1	31.5	45.2	138.1
1971	338.7	185.9	59.6	50.1	29.3	46.9	152.9
1972	363.9	186.4	49.5	33.4	103.5	177.5	
1973	434.8	235.4	62.8	56.0	116.7	199.4	
1974	346.1	190.4	51.4	51.1	87.9	155.7	
1973 1st qtr.	106.6	56.7	14.9	12.0	29.8	50.0	
2nd qtr.	108.1	62.2	16.5	14.9	30.9	45.9	
3rd qtr.	103.9	53.4	14.3	12.7	26.5	50.5	
4th qtr.	116.2	63.1	17.1	16.4	29.6	53.1	
1974 1st qtr.	103.8	48.3	12.6	13.0	22.6	55.5	
2nd qtr.	103.2	59.7	16.5	14.9	28.3	43.5	
3rd qtr.	83.4	45.1	11.5	12.1	21.5	38.3	
4th qtr.	55.8	37.3	10.9	11.0	15.4	18.4	
1975 1st qtr.	72.8	36.5	8.6	12.2	15.7	36.3	

(*a*) The classification of end uses was revised in January 1972, and the figures for deliveries to individual industries from the first quarter 1972 are not comparable with those for earlier years.
(*b*) The figures refer to deliveries from the industry direct for export and may differ rom the totals recorded as exports in the monthly trade accounts.

Quarterly analysis of man-made fibre production

Production by weight of synthetic fibres in the first quarter of 1975 was 26 per cent less than in the corresponding period of 1974 while production of viscose and acetate fibres was also 26 per cent less. Within the total for synthetic fibres, production of continuous filament yarns decreased by 26 per cent and staple fibre decreased by 31 per cent. Under the heading 'viscose and acetate', production of continuous filament yarn decreased by 16 per cent compared with the first quarter 1974, and staple fibre decreased by 29 per cent.

Analysis of man-made fibre production

Thousand metric tons

	Total		Continuous filament		Staple fibre	
	Synthetic	Viscose +acetate	Synthetic	Viscose +acetate	Synthetic	Viscose +acetate
1968	268.4	270.8	144.3	97.5	124.1	173.3
1969	291.4	262.5	155.9	96.6	135.5	166.0
1970	336.9	262.5	166.6	90.9	170.3	171.6
1971	357.3	255.7	191.2	85.2	166.1	170.6
1972	373.9	252.6	196.4	67.6	177.5	185.0
1973	453.9	277.0	233.0	72.6	220.9	204.4
1974	396.1	231.5	200.3	70.7	195.8	160.8
1973 1st quarter	111.8	71.7	59.7	18.4	52.1	53.3
2nd quarter	116.2	70.0	60.6	18.8	55.6	51.2
3rd quarter	107.9	63.5	54.1	16.5	53.8	47.0
4th quarter	118.0	71.9	58.5	19.0	59.5	52.9
1974 1st quarter	105.3	68.7	52.4	17.6	52.9	51.1
2nd quarter	104.6	70.5	51.3	20.4	53.4	50.1
3rd quarter	101.5	48.4	48.9	18.2	52.5	30.2
4th quarter	84.7	43.9	47.8	14.5	36.9	29.4
1975 1st quarter	78.3	50.8	41.7	14.7	36.6	36.1

The heading 'Viscose + acetate' includes triacetate.

Deliveries of continuous filament yarns (*a*)

Thousand metric tons

	Total	Home							Exports as yarn (*b*)
		Total	Broad weaving	Carpets and rugs	Weft knitting	Warp knitting	Industrial purposes (tyres etc.)	Other purposes	
1968	238.4	188.9	35.3	4.7	54.9	32.0	52.2	9.8	49.4
1969	242.7	193.6	33.7	5.5	51.9	35.3	58.8	8.4	49.1
1970	254.8	198.1	28.2	7.1	63.7	38.0	53.3	7.8	56.7
1971	261.4	198.7	25.3	8.7	69.9	41.4	43.5	9.9	62.7

	Total	Home						Exports as yarn (*b*)
		Total	Broad weaving	Carpets and rugs	Warp knitting	Industrial purposes (tyres, etc.)	Other purposes	Textured or texturing for all purposes other than carpets or industrial	
1972	270.1	198.7	25.1	13.4	40.4	40.8	10.0	69.0	71.4
1973	313.6	227.5	25.8	19.4	46.6	45.4	13.0	77.4	86.1
1974	259.4	188.6	22.3	14.1	35.8	35.1	11.9	69.3	70.8
1973 1st quarter	82.4	59.0	6.8	4.5	12.3	11.7	3.0	20.7	23.4
2nd quarter	81.8	60.2	6.5	5.3	12.2	12.6	3.4	20.2	21.7
3rd quarter	71.1	50.2	5.7	4.4	10.5	9.9	2.9	16.8	20.8
4th quarter	78.3	58.1	6.9	5.3	11.6	11.1	3.6	19.6	20.2
1974 1st quarter	72.7	50.9	4.8	4.0	10.8	9.0	3.1	19.2	21.7
2nd quarter	71.9	51.8	6.2	4.4	9.9	9.6	3.2	18.5	20.1
3rd quarter	59.4	43.6	5.7	3.2	8.4	7.4	3.0	15.9	15.8
4th quarter	55.4	42.3	5.6	2.5	6.7	9.1	2.6	15.7	13.1
1975 1st quarter	58.1	43.8	5.3	3.6	7.9	9.1	2.0	15.9	14.4

(*a*) The classification of end uses was revised in January 1968 and the figures for deliveries to individual industries 1968 to 1971 might not be fully comparable with those for earlier years. From January 1972 a further reclassification was introduced: deliveries of textured yarns and yarns for texturing, which were previously included in the figures for individual industries, are shown separately from the first quarter 1972.
(*b*) The figures refer to deliveries from the industry direct for export and may differ from the totals recorded as exports in the monthly trade accounts.

Production of man-made fibres in March

In the quarter ended March 1975 the volume of production of man-made fibres, seasonally adjusted, was estimated to have been 6 per cent less than in the quarter ended in December 1974. Total production by weight of man-made fibres in the period January-March 1975 was 26 per cent lower than in the period January-March 1974; output of continuous filament decreased by 19 per cent and staple fibre decreased by 30 per cent.

Man-made fibre production

Thousand metric tons

	Total	Continuous filament (singles)	Staple fibre
1968	539.1	241.8	297.4
1969	553.9	252.5	301.5
1970	599.4	257 6	341 9
1971	613.1	276.4	336.7
1972	626.5	264.0	362.5
1973	730.8	305.6	425.3
1974	627.6	271.0	356.6
1973 1st quarter	183 5	78.1	105.4
2nd quarter	186.1	79.4	106.7
3rd quarter	171.4	70.6	100.8
4th quarter	189.9	77.5	112.4
1974 1st quarter	174.0	69.9	104.1
2nd quarter	175.1	71.7	103.4
3rd quarter	149.9	67.1	82.7
4th quarter	128.6	62.3	66.3
1975 1st quarter	129.1	56.4	72.7
1974 January	57.1	21.7	35.4
February	54.9	22.4	32.5
March	62.1	25.9	36.2
April	63.9	25.6	38.3
May	55.9	24.9	31.0
June	55.3	21.1	34.2
July	55.6	22.8	32.8
August	48.5	21.3	27.2
September	45.9	23.1	22 8
October	50.7	25.2	25.5
November	43.1	20.7	22.4
December	34.7	16.4	18.3
1975 January	42.1	18.2	24.0
February	42.6	17.6	25.0
March	44.3	20.6	23.7

Index of the volume of production

1970 = 100

1968	87	
1969	92	
1970	100	
1971	106	
1972	107	
1973	127	
1974	111	
	Actual	Seasonally adjusted
1973 1st quarter	129	127
2nd quarter	131	128
3rd quarter	118	125
4th quarter	130	129
1974 1st quarter	120	117
2nd quarter	119	116
3rd quarter	109	117
4th quarter	96	95
1975 1st quarter	92	90
1974 January	112	110
February	122	120
March	125	121
April	131	129
May	116	112
June	110	107
July	113	119
August	106	120
September	109	110
October	116	114
November	99	95
December	74	76
1975 January	85	82
February	95	94
March	96	93

The actual figures allow for differences in the length of calendar months but not for holidays or other seasonal variations. The seasonally adjusted figures are based on the seasonal pattern up to the end of 1973, and may be subject to slight revision when the complete figures for 1974 are incorporated.

Tel. 01-212 0531 or 01-212 6474.

Foreign arrivals in the UK during January and February

During January and February 620,000 foreign visitors, including all those coming from EEC countries, arrived in the United Kingdom, 20 per cent more than in the same two months of 1974, according to figures jointly released by the Department of Trade and the British Tourist Authority. (The figures exclude visitors from the Irish Republic and Commonwealth citizens.)

The increase may overstate the underlying rate of growth in the number of arrivals because arrivals at the beginning of 1974 were affected by fuel shortages and other economic difficulties which tended to discourage travel.

In January and February total arrivals from the EEC countries were 21 per cent higher than in 1974, with large increases coming from Belgium and Luxembourg (28 per cent), France (27 per cent) and the Netherlands (23 per cent). Arrivals from the rest of Western Europe were up 24 per cent.

Foreign arrivals from the United States rose in the two months by 2 per cent over the same period in 1974, a reversal of the falling trend which was apparent throughout last year. Arrivals from other countries which declined in 1974 also showed increases, notably Japan with an increase of 35 per cent.

The seasonally adjusted series (revised in May) all show generally upward trends in the most recent months suggesting increases in the underlying levels of foreign arrivals from all areas.

Foreign arrivals

Thousands per month

	Total arrivals from EEC countries (excluding Irish Republic)		Foreign visitors from non-EEC countries: Rest of Western Europe (non-EEC)		United States		Other foreign countries		Total non-EEC countries	
1967	126		30		70		23		123	
1968	144		34		73		29		136	
1969	174		40		95		35		170	
1970	199		47		117		41		205	
1971	214		53		129		46		228	
1972	232		59		134		51		244	
1973	265		70		131		62		263	
1974	280		75		107		68		250	
	UA	SA	UA	SA	UA	SA	UA	SA	UA	SA
1974										
January	141	263	38	70	50	114	40	64	128	248
February	132	265	38	70	42	114	35	67	115	251
March	216	273	53	73	68	108	52	71	173	252
April	320	273	79	75	95	109	52	66	226	250
May	295	281	63	70	121	100	62	62	246	232
June	313	281	96	75	160	106	83	69	338	250
July	560	280	154	75	189	103	120	70	463	248
August	458	294	93	76	167	103	111	67	371	246
September	298	287	86	84	159	108	96	68	342	260
October	243	281	77	76	103	105	70	69	249	250
November	188	302	62	80	69	106	49	76	180	262
December	196	281	58	76	58	103	52	70	168	249
1975										
January	164	303	45	83	50	113	53	80	148	276
February	166	327	49	88	44	117	49	93	142	298
Jan.-Feb. 1974	273		76		92		75		243	
Jan.-Feb. 1975	330		94		94		102		290	

Total arrivals = all persons admitted, including long stay and short stay visitors from EEC countries

Foreign visitors = all persons entering for visits of under one year from non-EEC countries excluding Commonwealth countries.

UA = unadjusted. SA = seasonally adjusted. Source: Home Office.

The figures in the table are limited to foreign nationals, excluding Commonwealth citizens and citizens of the Irish Republic.

For non-EEC countries visitors entering for a stay of under one year are shown while, for EEC countries, total arrivals are shown irrespective of their purposes of visit or length of stay. This follows the entry of the United Kingdom into the EEC, since when citizens of Community countries are generally admitted to the United Kingdom without having to state their purpose of visit, or expected length of stay.

Seasonally adjusted figures: Simple comparisons of monthly figures between one year and another, or between adjacent months can be misleading. The seasonally adjusted figures provide a better basis for comparison with other months, or for judging current trends. In estimating the seasonal adjustments allowance has been made for changes in the seasonal pattern, which have been in the direction of a spreading of the tourist season, with some reduction in the summer peak relative to the rest of the year. Adjustment was also made for the effect of the varying date of Easter on numbers of Western European visitors.

Sales by wholesale textile houses

Sales by wholesale textile houses in March showed a decrease of 3 per cent on a year earlier, compared with increases of 18 per cent in January and 15 per cent in February.

The value of stocks at the end of March was 16 per cent higher than a year earlier.

TABLE 1 Total sales and stocks

Index numbers and *percentage increase compared with a year earlier* 1950 = 100

		Value of home sales		Value of stocks end period	
1966		110	*−3*	..	..
1967		104	*−5*	..	..
1968		108	*4*	..	..
1969		103	*−5*	..	..
1970		107	*4*	..	..
1971		115	*8*	..	..
1972		121	*5*	..	..
1973		134	*11*	..	..
1974		147	*9*	..	..
1972	3rd quarter	123	*7*	154	*4*
	4th quarter	149	*6*	169	*12*
1973	1st quarter	120	*18*	184	*12*
	2nd quarter	123	*11*	171	*17*
	3rd quarter	130	*6*	173	*12*
	4th quarter	163	*10*	204	*21*
1974	1st quarter	134	*12*	189	*3*
	2nd quarter	131	*7*	202	*18*
	3rd quarter	148	*13*	194	*12*
	4th quarter	173	*6*	198	*−3*
1975	1st quarter	143	*7*	219	*16*
1974	March	182	*25*	189	*3*
	April	139	*5*	180	*11*
	May	123	*8*	206	*19*
	June	132	*9*	202	*18*
	July	117	*9*	205	*19*
	August	141	*13*	207	*15*
	September	185	*16*	194	*12*
	October	206	*12*	192	*18*
	November	156	*1*	222	*10*
	December	158	*5*	198	*−3*
1975	January	99	*18*	205	*15*
	February	155	*15*	213	*16*
	March	176	*−3*	219	*16*

TABLE 2 Analysis by department

Percentage increase compared with a year earlier

	Sales		Stocks‡
	March 1975	Jan.-March 1975	Feb. 1975
Women's knitted outwear, blouses and skirts	−5	12	−9
Women's coats, costumes, furs and raincoats	27	8	26
Women's underwear	9	20	49
Women's hose and children's socks	−27	−4	14
Women's millinery	—	8	−36
Haberdashery, ribbons and wool	−24	2	−11
Children's wear	−28	−7	−3
Men's and boys' shirts, pyjamas and outfitting	12	7	67
Gloves	−29	−18	65
Piece-goods and nets	−37	6	−32
Household textiles	1	−2	9
Floor coverings, furniture and hardware	4	15	26
Boots and shoes	−18	2	10
Total†	−3	8	16

† Including some items not included among the sub-headings.
‡ Values at cost.

Notes

These statistics are prepared by Textile Distributors' Association. Inquiries should be addressed to the Secretary, the Textile Distributors' Association, 3 Berners Street, London W1P 4JP (tel. 01-580 2902).

New companies registered

Below are details of new companies registered in Great Britain during April 1975 showing nominal capital. The figures are exclusive of unlimited companies and companies limited by guarantee.

Nominal capital	Total	Public companies	Private companies
Not exceeding £100	3,198	—	3,198
Over £100 but under £1,000	72	—	72
£1,000 but under £10,000	1,157	—	1,157
£10,000 but under £50,000	400	—	400
£50,000 but under £100,000	51	—	51
£100,000 but under £1,000,000	61	—	61
£1,000,000 and over	5	—	5
Total number	4,944	—	4,944
	£ thous.	£ thous.	£ thous.
Total amount of nominal capital	24,352	—	24,352

Companies registered in Great Britain in 1974 and 1975

	1974		1975	
	Number	Nominal capital £ thous.	Number	Nominal capital £ thous.
January	4,758	27,824	3,648	18,631
February	2,870	81,582	3,442	22,886
March	3,393	21,763	3,440	28,511
April	3,679	50,557	4,944	24,352
May	3,878	36,111		
June	3,329	29,037		
July	3,730	32,961		
August	3,274	37,822		
September	3,214	36,037		
October	3,481	25,421		
November	3,115	36,422		
December	3,039	21,298		
Total	41,760	436,835		

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Motor vehicle output in April

The average rate of production of cars and commercial vehicles rose slightly in April (both in recorded terms and after allowing for the seasonal pattern) but the recent average rate of output reflects the restrained level of demand this year. In the four months to April 1975 car production was 3 per cent lower than in the same period last year when output was affected for some weeks by three day working. Commercial vehicles were 15 per cent higher in output than a year earlier.

In the four weeks to 25 April car output at 106,150 units (26,538 per week) showed a decrease of 8 per cent compared with April 1974. Commercial vehicle output, at 31,284 units (7,821 per week) was 2 per cent lower than a year earlier.

TABLE 1 Recorded production

Production figures of road motor vehicles cover complete vehicles, chassis with engines for delivery as such and un-assembled vehicles for export. Road tractors are included but battery operated road vehicles are excluded.

Production for export may differ from actual exports as recorded in the Overseas Trade Statistics because of differences in timing and coverage.

	No. of weeks	Passenger cars (including taxis)				Commercial road vehicles			
		For home market	For export	Totals	Weekly average	For home market	For export	Totals	Weekly average
1967	52	988,273	563,740	1,552,013	29,846	245,692	139,414	385,106	7,406
1968	52	1,013,163	802,773	1,815,936	34,922	259,331	149,855	409,186	7,869
1969	53	892,758	824,315	1,717,073	32,398	272,998	192,778	465,776	8,788
1970	52	918,109	722,857	1,640,966	31,557	267,407	190,125	457,532	8,799
1971	52	1,027,462	714,478	1,741,940	33,499	268,278	187,928	456,206	8,773
1972	52	1,307,881	613,430	1,921,311	36,948	272,649	135,470	408,119	7,848
1973	52	1,142,216	605,105	1,747,321	33,602	257,574	159,049	416,623	8,012
1974	52	937,932	596,187	1,534,119	29,502	232,373	170,193	402,566	7,742
1975	52								
1974 1st quarter	13	237,232	150,688	387,920	29,840	52,641	36,845	89,486	6,884
2nd quarter	13	275,355	164,041	439,396	33,800	63,122	46,063	109,185	8,399
3rd quarter	13	185,497	121,121	306,618	23,586	50,233	39,800	90,033	6,926
4th quarter	13	239,848	160,337	400,185	30,783	66,377	47,485	113,862	8,759
1975 1st quarter	13	242,582	139,692	382,274	29,406	61,402	46,808	108,210	8,324
2nd quarter	13								
3rd quarter	13								
4th quarter	13								
1974 January	4	61,781	37,628	99,409	24,852	13,989	9,595	23,584	5,896
February	4	73,721	50,721	124,442	31,110	16,048	11,428	27,476	6,869
March	5	101,730	62,339	164,069	32,814	22,604	15,822	38,426	7,685
April	4	74,411	40,917	115,328	28,832	18,881	12,913	31,794	7,948
May	4	99,873	58,240	158,113	39,528	20,614	15,513	36,127	9,032
June	5	101,071	64,884	165,955	33,191	23,627	17,637	41,264	8,253
July	4	56,304	37,405	93,709	23,427	14,978	12,841	27,819	6,955
August	4	66,368	46,662	113,030	28,258	14,701	10,495	25,196	6,299
September	5	62,825	37,054	99,879	19,976	20,554	16,464	37,018	7,404
October	4	73,584	49,228	122,812	30,703	20,846	14,332	35,178	8,794
November	4	84,742	55,632	140,374	35,094	22,364	16,125	38,489	9,622
December	5	81,522	55,477	136,999	27,400	23,167	17,028	40,195	8,039
1975 January	4	79,301	46,278	125,579	31,395	19,997	14,429	34,426	8,606
February	4	84,826	43,032	127,858	31,964	19,669	15,619	35,288	8,822
March	5	78,444	50,426	128,870	25,774	21,736	16,760	38,496	7,699
April	4	57,260	48,890	166,150	26,538	16,866	14,418	31,284	7,821
May	4								
June	5								
July	4								
August	4								
September	5								
October	4								
November	4								
December	5								

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(The comments which follow are based on the seasonally adjusted figures shown in Table 2.)

Cars

Car production in April, at 107,000 units, was 2 per cent above the March level, but 16 per cent below the average rate of output in 1974. For the second successive month production for the home market fell (by 6 per cent), while that for export showed some further recovery. Production for export was, however, still 8 per cent below the 1974 average.

In the three months to April 1975, car output fell by 17 per cent compared with the preceding three months. Within the total, home market production decreased by 10 per cent, while production for export fell sharply by 27 per cent.

Commercial vehicles

Commercial vehicle output in April, at 32,600 units, was 2½ per cent above the March level, but 3 per cent below the monthly average during 1974. In the period February to April output was 9 per cent below that in November to January, home market production falling slightly more than production for export.

TABLE 2 Production – seasonally adjusted

The seasonally adjusted series has been adjusted to exclude the effect of regularly recurring influences (eg holidays) but the figures still reflect the effect of factors that do not recur regularly (eg strikes).

Care should be taken not to interpret changes between one month and another as necessarily indicating the underlying trend. The averages in the latest three months and in the previous three months give a more reliable guide to recent changes.

MONTHLY AVERAGE — Thousands

	Passenger cars			Commercial vehicles		
	For home market	For export	Total	For home market	For export	Total
1967	82	47	129	20.5	11.6	32.1
1968	84	67	151	21.6	12.5	34.1
1969	74	69	143	22.7	16.1	38.8
1970	77	60	137	22.3	15.8	38.1
1971	86	59	145	22.3	14.7	38.0
1972	109	51	160	22.7	11.3	34.0
1973	95	50	145	21.5	13.2	34.7
1974	78	50	128	19.3	14.2	33.5
1975						
1974 1st quarter	69	42	111	16.6	11.7	28.3
2nd quarter	85	47	132	19.6	14.2	33.8
3rd quarter	83	55	138	21.3	16.2	37.5
4th quarter	76	54	130	19.9	14.7	34.6
1975 1st quarter	76	43	119	20.1	15.5	35.6
2nd quarter						
3rd quarter						
4th quarter						
1974 January	56	44	100	15.2	12.3	27.5
February	70	36	106	16.2	11.0	27.2
March	80	46	126	18.5	11.7	30.2
April	79	32	111	19.9	13.8	33.7
May	93	56	149	21.3	14.5	35.8
June	81	55	136	17.7	14.2	31.9
July	97	66	163	22.0	16.7	38.7
August	88	61	149	22.1	16.8	38.9
September	64	37	101	19.8	15.1	34.9
October	72	49	121	18.8	14.0	32.8
November	82	60	142	20.1	15.3	35.4
December	75	53	128	20.8	14.8	35.6
1975 January	78	53	131	21.7	17.4	39.1
February	85	36	121	20.2	15.8	36.0
March	65	40	105	18.4	13.4	31.8
April	61	46	107	17.4	15.2	32.6
May						
June						
July						
August						
September						
October						
November						
December						
Average of:						
Nov. 1974-Jan. 1975	78	56	134	20.9	15.8	36.7
Feb.-Apr. 1975	70	41	111	18.7	14.8	33.5
Percentage change	−10	−27	−17	−10	−7	−9

Energy trends: coal edges out oil as chief fuel

The share of total energy consumption accounted for by coal in March exceeded that of oil for the first time since 1970.

Energy Trends, the Department of Energy's monthly statistical bulletin shows that, while inland consumption of oil was 13.3 million tons of coal equivalent (mtce), consumption of coal reached 14.2 million tons.

Further figures show that this situation partly reflected an increase during March of coal used for electricity generation and a corresponding drop in the use of oil in CEGB power stations. It also reflected increased deliveries of domestic coal and the general low level of demand for oil products.

Total energy consumption during March, measured on a temperature corrected, seasonally-adjusted, annual rate basis was 4.8 mtce a year below the revised February level.

Recruitment in the coal industry was higher during April than in any month since last August. After allowing for wastage, there was a net increase of over 1,100 men on colliery books.

Stocks of coal at power stations rose by over 640,000 tons during April to a total of nearly 13.9 million tons.

Electricity generation capacity in England and Wales fell during March by 928 megawatts as a result of the de-rating and de-commissioning of some plant. Capacity in Scotland was increased by the commissioning of the second 150 MW generating set at Foyers pumped storage power station on Loch Ness.

Refinery output in March, at just over 6.9 million tons, was down by over 25 per cent on output in March last year. This continued the trend noted in previous months.

Energy Trends says that, of the major products, output of gas/diesel oil fell by nearly one-third on March 1974 and fuel oil by more than one-quarter.

Total deliveries of products in the first quarter of 1975 were 10.5 per cent below those in the same period last year. This included a drop of 12.0 per cent in fuel oil deliveries and 0.7 per cent in motor spirit. Derv fuel for commercial transport declined by 4 per cent.

Although stocks of oil held by the oil companies fell marginally between March and April, their estimated duration increased from 96 to 106 days. The increased duration level reflects forecasts of lower demand by the oil companies.

The figures for November 1973 to March 1974, are progressively affected by the coal miners' overtime ban, their subsequent national strike, and by restrictions on fuel use. Cumulative totals and comparisons are also affected by these factors.

Overall energy consumption during the ten years 1963-73 grew at an average rate of a little over 2 per cent a year, on a primary fuel input basis.

Energy Trends is prepared by the Economics and Statistics Division of the Department of Energy. Copies are available free from: Information Division, Department of Energy, Room 1260, Thames House South, Millbank, London SW1P 4QJ.

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Regional selective assistance

The table below shows, on a regional basis, the applications received, and offers made, under Section 7 of the Industry Act 1972 for the month indicated.

MARCH 1975

Assisted Area	Applications received	Offers made	
	No.	No.	Value (£000)
Scotland	15	13	9,633
Wales	9	6	128
Northern	26	15	1,513
North West	12	10	1,135
Yorkshire/Humberside	11	8	67
South West	5	3	—
East Midlands	5	4	51
West Midlands	—	—	—
Total	83	56	12,527

The table below shows on the same basis applications received and offers made for the financial year 1 April 1974 to 31 March 1975.

Assisted area	Applications received	Offers made	
	No.	No.	Value (£000)
Scotland	259	162	23,551
Wales	222	145	11,216
Northern	320	166	7,237
North West	198	191	21,107
Yorkshire/Humberside	217	171	6,433
South West	45	29	1,498
East Midlands	4	42	633
West Midlands	4	—	63
Total	1,333	908	71,738

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The Census of Production reports and the Census of Distribution reports (published as Business Monitors SD10 to SD23) are available on standing order from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH, or can be purchased separately from the Government Bookshops or through booksellers.

Cinema admissions and takings in February

During February counted as a 4 week period, the weekly average of admissions to cinemas in Great Britain was 2.87 million and the weekly average of gross box office takings, including VAT was £1.52 million. The comparable figures for February 1974 were 2.95 and £1.39 million repectively.

Registrations of British, Community and foreign films

The following are details of films registered by the Department of Trade under the Films Acts 1960 to 1970, as amended by the European Communities Act 1972, during the week ended Friday, 30 May 1975.
BR/E indicates that the film is a British quota film, EC that the film is a quota film. The date which forms part of the registration number of each is the date on which quota life of the film expires.

Title of film	Registered no.	Playing time minutes	Date of registration	Registered in the name of	Maker's name
			BRITISH		
Ghost Players	BR/E 39012/31/5/80	11	27 May	Border Film Productions (London) Ltd.	Border Film Productions (London) Ltd.
Brannigan	BR/E 39013/31/5/80	110	27 May	United Artists Corporation Ltd.	Wellborn Ltd.
In Search of the Real Dracula	BR/E 39014/31/5/80	28	27 May	EMI Film Distributors Ltd.	Courier Films Ltd.
I Don't Want To Be Born	BR/E 39015/31/5/80	94	28 May	Fox-Rank Distributors Ltd.	Prizebourne Ltd.
The Ghoul	BR/E 39016/31/5/80	88	28 May	Fox-Rank Distributors Ltd.	Tyburn Film Productions Ltd.
Movietone News 2399	BR/E 37829/31/5/80	8	30 May	British Movietonews Ltd.	British Movietonews Ltd.
			FOREIGN		
The Sexbury Tales	F 39017	92	28 May	Border Film Productions (London) Ltd.	Jarama Film, Rome
Hot Acts of Love	F 39018	73	29 May	English Film Company Ltd.	Europrodis, Paris
Janis	F 39019	97	29 May	Cinema International Corporation (UK)	Universal Pictures, California

Amendments to the Register
The playing time of the film 'Sidecar Racers' (F 39006) registered on 15 May 1975, has been amended to 87 minutes.
The title of the film 'Loveplay' (EC 36751/8/4/78), registered on 4 April 1973 has been amended to 'Loveplay – Swedish Style'.

Index to statistics and organisational information published regularly in 'Trade and Industry'

A = annually M = monthly Q = quarterly 6M = every six months.

Title	Last published
Air transport: trade by air (6M)	16 May 1975
Balance of payments:	
current account (M)	23 May 1975
trends in invisible transactions (Q)	24 Oct. 1974
(*see also* Overseas trade of the UK)	
Bankruptcies *see* Insolvencies	
Business names and limited partnerships (A)	30 Jan. 1975
Capital expenditure: manufacturing, distributive and service industries (Q)	4 Apr. 1975
Catering trades turnover (M)	23 May 1975
Census of production (A)	19 Dec. 1974
(amendment)	16 Jan. 1975
Chemicals industry activity (Q)	6 Feb. 1975
Companies:	
acquisitions and mergers (Q)	9 May 1975
insolvencies (Q)	2 May 1975
liquidity (Q)	14 Mar. 1975
new registrations:	
Gt. Britain (M)	This week
N. Ireland (M)	11 Apr. 1975
Construction work overseas (A)	17 Oct. 1974
EEC economic indicators	30 May 1975
Energy trends (M)	This week
Engineering industries: sales and orders (M)	23 May 1975
Film industry	
British Film Fund Agency returns (M)	16 May 1975
cinema admissions and takings (M)	This week
overseas payments and earnings (A)	1 Aug. 1974
registrations of films (A)	6 Feb. 1975
Food:	
consumption levels (6M)	2 May 1975
household consumption (Q)	14 Mar. 1975
Footwear industry: production, orders and deliveries (M)	23 May 1975
Foreign exchange: official reserves (M)	16 May 1975
Foreign trade: industrial countries' production and trade (Q)	18 Apr. 1975
(*see also* Overseas trade of the UK)	
Furniture orders and deliveries (M)	23 May 1975
Hire-purchase business (M)	16 May 1975
Industrial production:	
index numbers (M)	23 May 1975
N. Ireland index (M)	23 May 1975
Insolvencies in England and Wales (Q)	2 May 1975
Insurance companies: investments and assets (A)	5 Sept. 1974
Investment:	
book values of overseas direct investments (every 3 years)	15 Nov. 1973
industry's investment intentions (3 times a year)	30 Jan. 1975
investment and earnings overseas (A)	14 Mar. 1975
(amendment)	21 Mar. 1975
Machine tools: sales and orders (M)	30 May 1975
Man-made fibres:	
deliveries (Q)	This week
production (M)	This week
production: quarterly analysis (Q)	This week
Motor industry:	
car and commercial vehicle production (M)	This week
estimated figures (M)	16 May 1975
motor trade turnover (Q)	30 May 1975
Office development permits (Q)	9 May 1975
Overseas trade of the UK:	
direct exporters and credit terms (A)	11 Apr. 1975
UK overseas trade in 1973	16 May 1974
unit value and volume index numbers (M)	23 May 1975
value: analysis of trends (Q)	18 Apr. 1975
(*see also* Balance of payments)	
Paper and board production (M)	30 Jan. 1975
Pension funds: investments and assets (A)	5 Sept. 1974
Regional selective assistance (M)	This week
Retail prices index (M)	30 May 1975
Retail trades:	
sales (M)	16 May 1975
provisional figures (M)	25 Apr. 1975
sales, N. Ireland (M)	9 May 1975
stocks (M)	30 May 1975
Royalties: overseas transactions (A)	11 Apr. 1975
Shipping: nationality of vessels in UK sea-borne trade (A)	23 Jan. 1975
Steel consumption and stocks (Q)	30 May 1975
Stocks:	
manufacturers' and distributors' quarterly figures (Q)	4 Apr. 1975
manufacturers' stocks: monthly estimates (M)	2 May 1975
retail (M)	30 May 1975
Television: overseas payments and earnings (A)	1 Aug. 1974
Textiles:	
activity in the industry (Q)	25 Apr. 1975
carpet sales (M)	23 May 1975
cotton industry production (M)	2 May 1975
hosiery production (M)	30 May 1975
made-up clothing: orders and deliveries (M)	23 May 1975
orders and deliveries (M)	21 Mar. 1974
wholesale houses' sales (M)	This week
wool exports (Q)	25 Feb. 1975
wool output (M)	2 May 1975
Tourism:	
foreign visitor arrivals (M)	This week
overseas travel and tourism (A)	7 Mar. 1975
Wholesale prices:	
average prices of selected commodities (A)	4 Apr. 1974
index numbers (M)	23 May 1975

Departmental organisations, etc.

Subjects	Last published
British commercial representations overseas	4 Apr. 1975
Business Monitor titles	6 Sept. 1973
Customs notices of interest to exporters	23 May 1975
ECGD local offices	14 Mar. 1975
Guide to Departments	7 Mar. 1975
Official Receivers' offices	21 Mar. 1975
Programme of trade promotions	18 Apr. 1975
Release dates of economic statistics	30 May 1975

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Government Sales

Ministry of Defence

11 June 1975 Miscellaneous stores

Location: The Astoria, Roundhay Road, Leeds 8

Auctioneers: Bartle and Son, 52 Merrion Street, Leeds LS2 8JH (tel. 0532 450898)

Industrial and garage plant and equipment including Ford estate cars, lathes, grinding, drilling, shearing and screwing machines, hydraulic press, diesel and electric fork-lift trucks, dynamometer, welding, braising and cutting equipment, MT spares, tyres, tools, batteries, pullifts. Electronic, wireless and signal equipment. Wooden huts. 28,000 yards of wool/rayon flannel cloth, blankets, carpets, tents, kit bags, mixed rags, duffle coats, jersey pullovers, greatcoats, raincoats, battle dress, shirts, boots and shoes. Household and office furniture including chairs, tables, wardrobes, dressing chests, bedsteads, filing cabinets, writing bureaux, bookcases and a large quantity of other miscellaneous stores.

18 June 1975 Miscellaneous stores

Location: The Embassy Suite, Balkerne Lane, Colchester

Auctioneers: Fenn, Wright, Garrod, Turner, (Dept. L), 146 High Street, Colchester, Essex (tel. 0206-46161)

Approximately 400 lots including industrial tractor, hydraulic straighteners, pillar drills, stand test hydraulic system, trailer mounted air compressor, lathe, sewing machines, lifting gear, snatch blocks, pipe wrenches, MT spares, engineers' tools, clothing, carpets, bedding, mixed rags, crockery, furniture, scrap metals, two Bedford 33 seater coaches, and other miscellaneous stores.

Catalogues for the above sale, which give details of the lots, conditions of sale, viewing times, etc., are available from the auctioneers from two weeks before and up to the day of the sale, price 10p (postal orders only).

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announce auction sales as follows:

DATE	*BRIEF DESCRIPTION*	*LOCATION*
Wednesday, 11th June	Woodworking Machinery and Large Stocks of Materials	Solar Caravans, Mold, N. Wales
Thursday, 12th June	Cutlery, Flat Holloware Manufacturing and Plating Plant and stock	Ruabon, N. Wales
Wednesday, 18th June	Engineering and Fabricating Machinery	Woodhill, Birkenhead
Thursday, 26th June	Engineering/Foundry/Development Premises: total floorspace 59,000 sq. ft. site area 4,350 sq. ft.	Whittakers, Accrington
Wednesday, 9th July	Paper Tube Manufacturing Machinery and Stocks	Macards, Manchester
Wednesday 24th September	Circular Knitting Machinery, Overlock Sewing Machines and Equipment	Knitweave Fabrics, Shaw, Oldham

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'PROMPT' (Lying at Portsmouth)	Steel, built 1943. G.T. 232. N.T. Nil. Length (B.P.) 105 ft. Breadth (mld.) 27 ft. Depth (mld.) 12 ft. 6 in. Light Displacement 361 tons. Engine: Single screw, oil fired, steam reciprocating, triple expansion by Adam A. Cowie, Aberdeen. IHP 850.

Copies of form of purchase agreement, further particulars, plans and authority to inspect can be obtained from the Department of Trade, Room 42, Parliament Square House, 34/36 Parliament Street, London SW1A 2ND Tel: 01-212 8996.

Separate Offers for each tug should be addressed to the Department of Trade, Room 43, at the above address and in envelopes clearly marked 'Offer to Purchase "EMINENT/ or PROMPT" ' and must be received not later than noon on the 3 July 1975.

The above information is given for guidance only and any prospective purchaser/s must satisfy himself/themselves regarding actual details of the vessels and their present condition.

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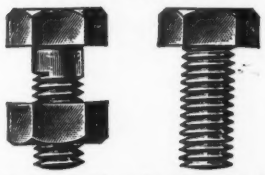

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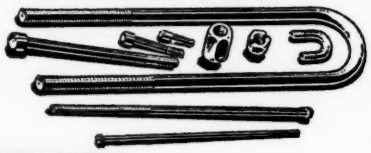

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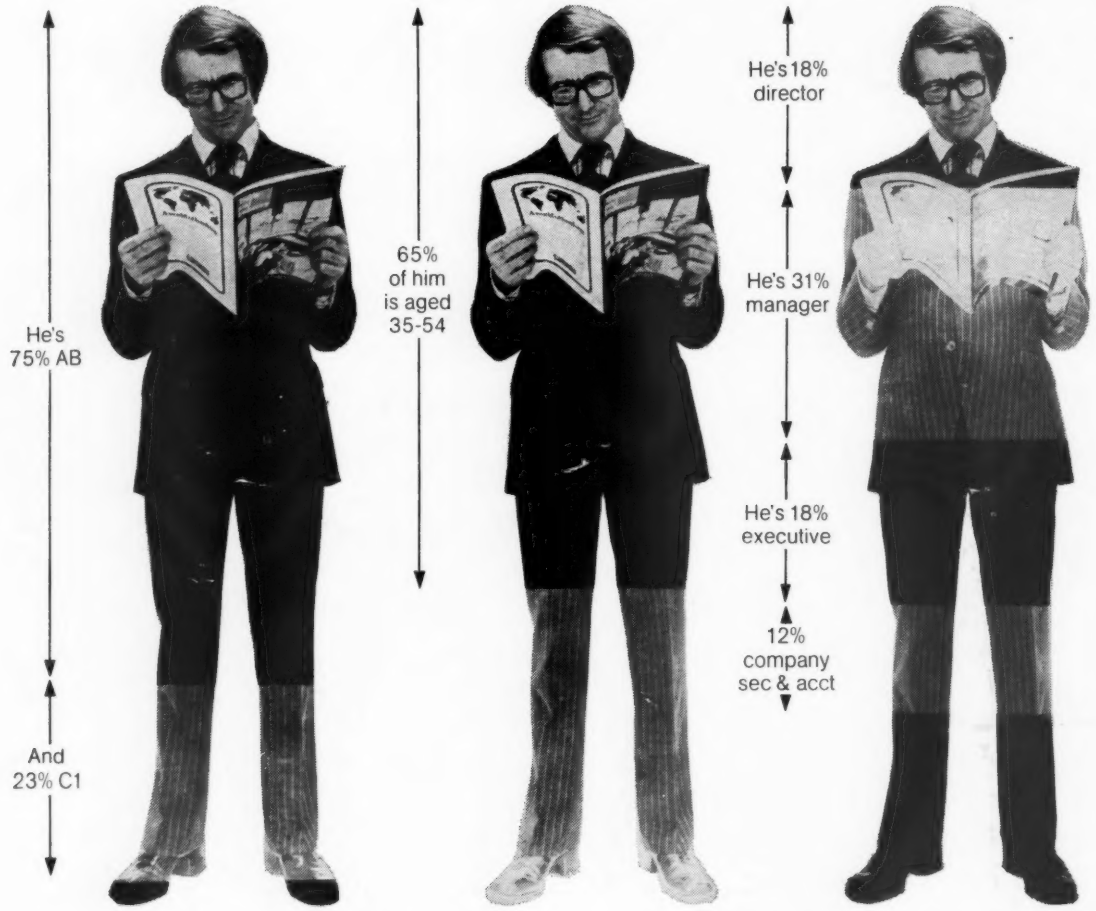

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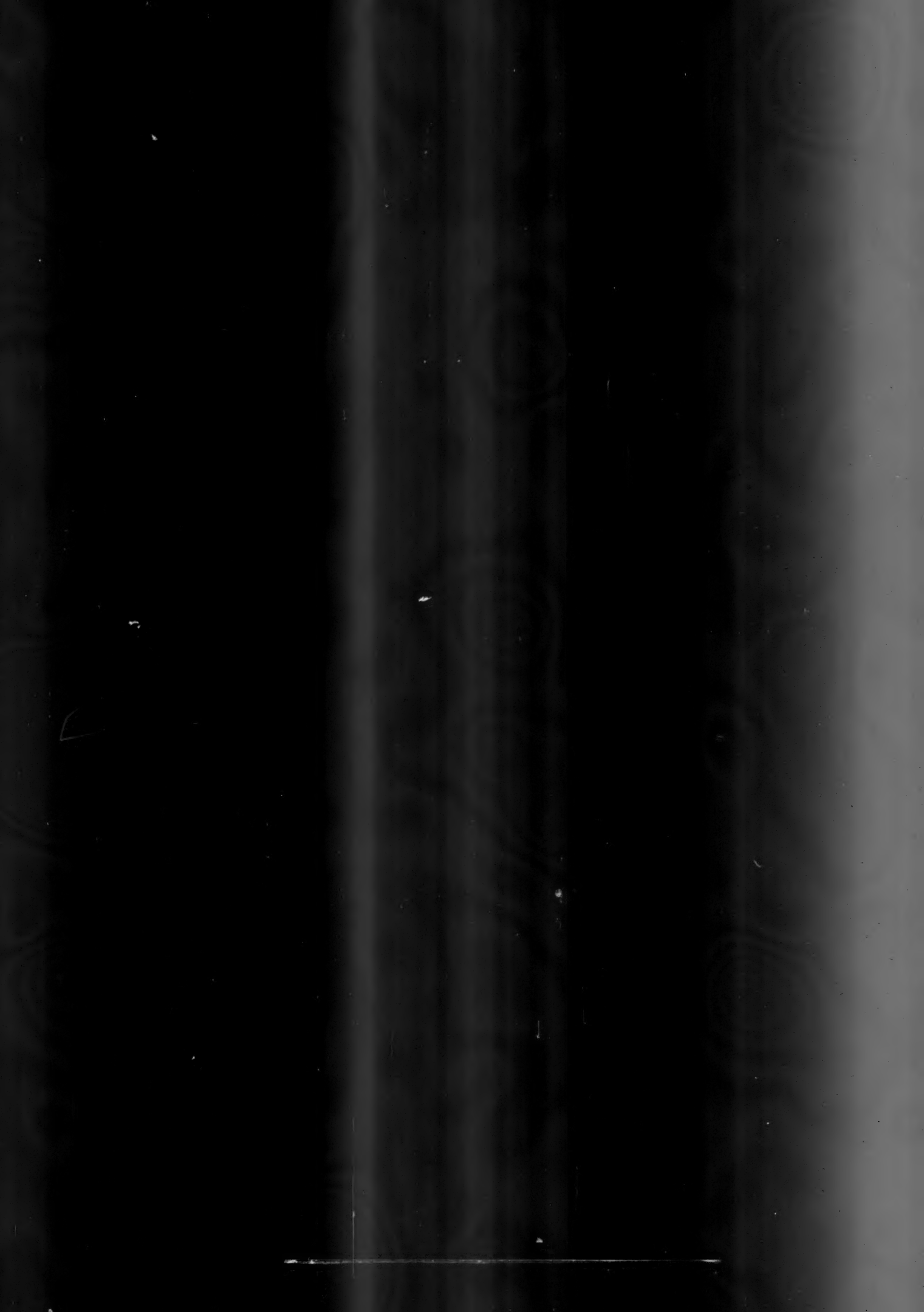
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